



Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu (c) and Tsomet head Rafael Eitan (l) are welcomed to TA's Carmel Market yesterday. (AP)

Likud, Tsomet to okay pact today

THE Likud and Tsomet Knesset factions are expected to approve the revised alignment agreement their leaders drew up yesterday, removing all obstacles to the formal signing.

The agreement is to be presented to the press later today by Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu and Tsomet's Rafael Eitan, his new No. 1.

It took five hours of talks to iron out the kinks which prevented the initialing of the agreement.

The chief problem was the Likud's demand that should the new joint ticket lose, Tsomet will not be able to take mandates won at the Likud's expense and cross Knesset lines.

The difficulty was not in differences between Netanyahu and Eitan, but in finding the legal formulation which would make the clause as binding as possible; though it was clear it could not be made air-tight. To anchor the deal in the Knesset Rules, Likud MK Michael Eitan was called in as expert on the fine print.

In the end, it was agreed that neither of the two partners would join a coalition without the other and that, throughout the term of the 14th Knesset, neither party would withdraw from the bloc. At the end of the 14th Knesset's tenure, however, the two could decide to run independently again.

While this does not absolutely rule out defections, the Likud believes it puts considerable moral onus on Tsomet not to renege on the deal.

Netanyahu was forced to renegotiate with Tsomet after his own Knesset faction refused to approve the agreement and handed it back to him, asking for a more binding undertaking from Tsomet.

"Another sticking point was not fully addressed, however. The Likud insists there be an undertaking to respect the existing status quo on religious affairs, while Tsomet's platform features clauses against religious coercion and a demand that all yeshiva students be either conscripted for military service or obliged to do national service.

Likud and Tsomet sources alike report that Tsomet has agreed to declare some form of support for the status quo, but this will be formulated when the two parties put out their joint platform. This is expected to be a short document. In the clause on the status quo it will call for "the encouragement of warm relations between observant and non-observant Jews," with the Likud demanding the addition of the phrase, "according to the status quo."

In return for all this, the Likud agreed that Tsomet remain an independent party,

keeping its own government financing. Tsomet would get seven places on the list, up to the 42nd slot.

Netanyahu expressed confidence that this version of the agreement would win approval, but said that if objections are heard that Tsomet newcomers would push Likud candidates down on the list, he "would not punch anyone, but I'll get very angry. Whoever makes this argument is not too smart, because unity will increase the number of seats we will win."

Taking a break in their negotiations, Netanyahu and Eitan went out from Likud headquarters to the nearby Carmel Market, where they were widely congratulated on their deal.

Meanwhile, the Likud is considering moving its primaries from March 26 to March 12. This follows Labor's decision to advance its primaries from April 17 to March 25.

Liat Collins adds:

The religious status-quo clause was added after MK Ovadia Eli threatened to resign from the Likud unless it was agreed upon. At a press conference, Eli said he supports the agreement "now that its most obvious deficiency has been corrected by protecting the relations with the religious."

Eli said the clause is essential to keep religious voters and gain support for Netanyahu as a candidate for prime minister.

SARAH HONG

Elections on May 28, PM tells Christopher

ELECTIONS will be moved up to May 28, Prime Minister Shimon Peres told US Secretary of State Warren Christopher last night, diplomatic sources said.

However, at a press conference with Christopher after their meeting in Tel Aviv, Peres denied reports that he is likely to officially announce today that elections will be brought forward.

"On the issue of the elections, I announced that I would make an announcement next week, and I am standing by that announcement," he said.

Peres reportedly told Labor ministers yesterday morning that he favors the May 28 date. At the meeting, it was decided to establish a team to deal with all aspects of holding early elections.

The team - Internal Security

LIAT COLLINS

Minister Moshe Shahal, Interior Minister Haim Ramon, Justice Minister David Liba'i, party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli, and Knesset faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen - met in the afternoon, and decided on May 28 as the preferred date.

According to ITV's Channel 1, the party is calling on former Tel Aviv mayor Shlomo Lahat to join the electoral campaign in an undefined function.

Peres reportedly called the decision by Likud and Tsomet to run together "a miserable match."

He called on his own ministers to show a united front and refrain from arguing in public. "We must appear statesmanlike," Peres said. "We must present the public with our achievements, not only the peace but also the consequent economic growth."

Peres told the Labor ministers

to stress that Jerusalem will remain Israel's united capital.

He said the emphasis should be placed on showing that a peace agreement with Syria would mean peace with nearly all other Arab countries and that the depth of withdrawal on the Golan Heights would depend of the extent of the peace.

Peres also discussed the preservation of the religious status quo, and said the religious public should be treated with respect and without discrimination, particularly regarding housing, one of the sector's biggest problems. He asked Housing Minister Benjamin Ben-Eliezer and Minister Yossi Beilin to prepare a plan to solve the housing problems of the haredim.

One such housing project under discussion has raised the ire of Meretz, which objects to the construction of the Kiryat Ha-sefer neighborhood a kilometer beyond the Green Line.

Nautilus laser test called successful

STEVE RODAN

A TEST of a joint US-Israeli laser system designed to shoot down short-range rockets, such as Katyushas, was successful, US officials said yesterday.

They said the laser "successfully engaged" an inert Katyusha, supplied by Israel, during a test conducted at a US Army facility at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico on Tuesday.

The test was the first demonstration of the Nautilus program, on which Israel and the US have been working for the last few years. It is designed to destroy short-range rockets, mortar shells, and unmanned reconnaissance aircraft.

The program is being conducted at the US Army Space and Strategic Defense Command's High Energy Laser System Test Facility at White Sands.

The Katyusha used did not carry explosives. Officials said the next test would probably use a live rocket.

"At this time, we think we have all the necessary information to go to the next step in the Nautilus program," said Gerald Wilson, manager of the program.

Officials said that the test results remain preliminary and that technical analysis is still required to determine the degree of success. They said they expect such data to arrive within the next few days.

The US Army announcement of Nautilus contained few details. It did not mention that Israel is a partner or that the targeted rocket was a Katyusha. Defense sources acknowledge that the program has been under a veil of secrecy since it moved into an intense stage of development eight months ago.

Israeli officials refused to comment on the Nautilus program.

US defense sources appeared pleased with the test, conducted after being delayed three times over the past two months.

'Banks inflated kibbutz debts'

AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tzur and Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal are demanding an official commission of inquiry into alleged kibbutz debts to the banks, after a preliminary report, published yesterday, said banks inflated the debts.

Supervisor of Bank's Ze'ev Ables denied reports the banks are at risk of collapsing, if mistakes are discovered in the calculations.

The draft report said the commercial banks miscalculated charges to kibbutzim over many years and that correcting the mistakes will place the stability of the banking sector in doubt.

Shahal said he supports the conclusions and has long believed the banks were illegally manipulating interest rates and doing "what they pleased."

Galit Lipikis Beck
Full report, Page 8

Head of Jerusalem's riot squad may be charged with brutality

BILL HUTMAN

THE Justice Ministry's Police Investigations Division has recommended charges be filed against the head of the Jerusalem riot squad for allegedly beating right-wing demonstrators during a protest last year, police sources said yesterday.

The recommendation to file charges against Ch.-Supt. Effi

Havivian was turned over to the State Attorney's Office several days ago, following six months of inquiry by the division, the sources said.

Havivian allegedly used excessive force in breaking up a small protest by Jewish residents of Hebron outside the Russian Compound, where several dozen people were being held for their involvement in an earlier incident in Hebron.

"Havivian told the protesters to disperse and when they refused began kicking and punching them," according to Noam Arnon, a spokesman for the Hebron settlers. He said his 13-year-old daughter was among those hit.

Arnon called for Havivian's suspension pending the outcome of legal and disciplinary proceedings against him. The police, however, made no immediate moves to prevent Havivian from continuing to work.

The Jerusalem police spokesman referred questions on Havivian to the national police spokesman.

The national spokesman said, "The material on Havivian has not yet been received," and offered no further comment.

Graves to be opened in Yemenite children search

GRAVES will be opened as part of the work of the commission of inquiry into the disappearance of Yemenite children in the 1950s, according to commission chair Yehuda Cohen.

Cohen, who spoke yesterday with Channel 2, said the Yemenite community had asked for the graves to be opened, saying this would prove the children had not died but had been abducted to be given for adoption.

Yesterday the commission visited the Sha'ar Menashe and Kar-kur Ein-Iron cemeteries, where some of the Yemenite children who disappeared are reportedly buried.

"We have been authorized to open unmarked graves where Yemenite children are suspected to have been buried," said Cohen, a retired judge.

Children of Uzi Meshulam dis-

pleas traveled yesterday to Safed, where they held a demonstration against Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal and visited the graves of sages. They prayed for the release of Meshulam.

The Supreme Court is to issue its verdict this morning on Meshulam's appeal. Meshulam, who was sentenced to eight years in prison for endangering lives, illegal weapons possession, and a host of other offenses, is appealing both his conviction and his sentence.

Meshulam and his followers barricaded themselves with the weapons in his Yehud home for two months in March 1994, protesting the "sale of 4,000 Yemenite children."

In Safed, the children wore shirts reading, "A country that sold its children in the end will be sold to its enemies." (Itim)

Amir family protests jail conditions as passersby jeer

NEWS AGENCIES

PASSERSBY jeered the family of Yigal Amir, the confessed assassin of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, yesterday as Amir's father, mother, and sister led a protest in downtown Jerusalem.

"You are murderers," an elderly man shouted at the Amirs and about 20 other people demanding better prison conditions for Yigal, 25, and the release of two alleged fellow conspirators: his brother, Hagai, and friend Dror Adani.

A young man yelled at a male demonstrator who was speaking on a loud-hailer: "Because of you Yigal killed."

Amir's mother stood silently by. His father stood somewhat apart from her, also silent. But their daughter, Hadass, said: "He [Hagai] and Dror Adani didn't do anything... He didn't hurt anybody."

New Amir trial strategy, Page 12

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מנהלם על חירות אל יגאל
חברת החשמל



A koala snacks on eucalyptus leaves in Featherdale Wildlife Park, a Sanctuary near Sydney.

Photo by Stanton H. Patty

On The Rocks in

by Stanton H. Patty

SYDNEY, Australia—They serve history "on the Rocks" here. Mighty smooth. The Rocks is the lively neighborhood in the heart of downtown Sydney where Australia was born.

It was here in Sydney Cove, on a January evening in 1788, that a fleet of convict ships from England delivered a cargo of human misery.

Aboard were 757 prisoners—ordered "transported for life" to a far-away penal colony that would be called Australia.

Before darkness, the convicts were clearing ground for shelters on the sandstone bluffs that gave The Rocks their name.

A redevelopment panel formed by the New South Wales state government in 1970 proposed that The Rocks be razed for high rises.

Logs of the 11 ships carefully listed the rest of the contingent: a military escort of 200 guards, plus 28 women, 14 children, 4 cattle, 6 horses, 44 sheep plus sundry fowl and pigs.

And thus a nation was founded. Today, many of Australia's famous families trace their beginnings to that grim event.

"And with a great deal of pride," says Joanna McDonald, a Rocks walking-tour guide.

When King George III lost the war to the "colonies," England had to find a new dumping ground for criminals and political agitators. Australia—15,000 sea miles and eight months by sail from Britain—was the choice.

Another slice of irony: Capt. William Bligh, who lost the Bounty to a band of mutineers, was one of the early governors of the new colony.

Bligh's run of bad luck followed him to The Rocks in 1805. Run-swilling soldiers defied his strong-discipline methods and got him fired.

"Actually, Captain Bligh was a much-maligned person," McDonald says. "He's very much a part of our history."

Now, bared by Bligh's scowling statue on the green by Sydney Cove, tourists board a full-scale replica of the Bounty for cruises around one of the world's most beautiful harbors.

The fare is \$20 (Australian) a pop, mate. Maybe Bill Bligh should have considered a career as a sightseeing skipper.

Today's Rocks district is a place for strolling, with a charming mix of galleries, craft centers, restaurants and pubs along tangles of meandering streets decked with dozens of original buildings.

Visitors have no trouble getting their bearings. The Rocks are squeezed between two of the city's best-known landmarks—the Sydney Opera House, with its dramatic roof line of ceramic sails, and the 440-foot-high sweep of the Harbour Bridge.

Every Saturday and Sunday (from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) the area turns into The Rocks Market, with more than 100 vendors offering items from antiques to kitchen gadgets.

And in the evening The Market rocks to the beat of Freshly Squeezed Fanatics, Home Rule, the Murrumbidgee Rattlers and other groups.

This is where Sydney's heart beats fastest.

"But we almost lost it all," says Joanna McDonald. What happened was that as Sydney boomed, The Rocks fell into decay. By the 1960s, the historic district was a seedy and rowdy slum area with few permanent residents.

A redevelopment panel formed by the New South Wales state government in 1970 proposed that The Rocks be razed for high rises.

Sydney folk would be eager, proponents said, to replace an ugly collection of worn-out buildings with skyscrapers by the water's edge.

Wrong. "No—you can't do this!" howled history-minded citizens.

Sympathetic members of the Building Workers Union called a strike to prevent any new construction in The Rocks. The bureaucrats went back to their drawing boards.

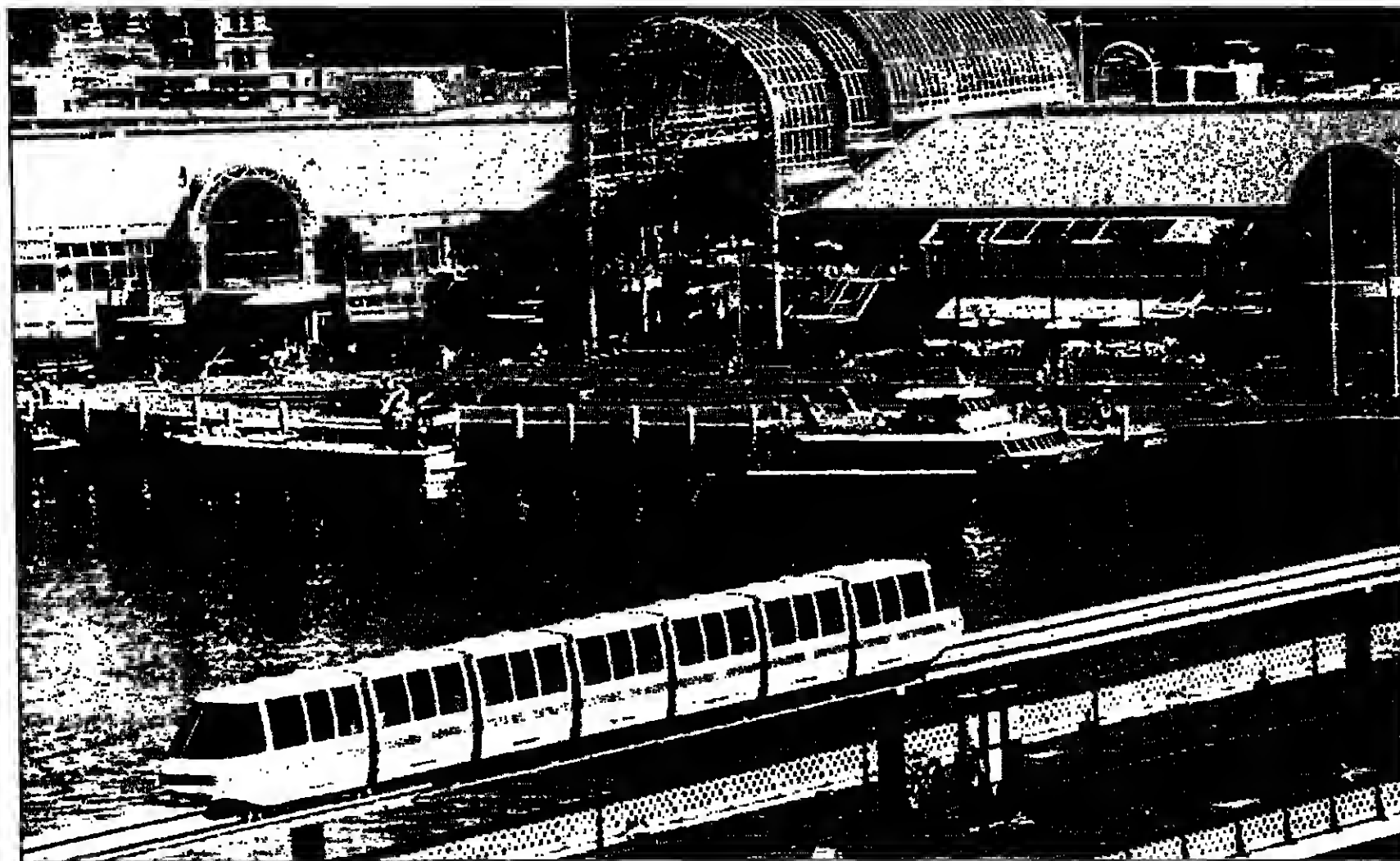
A new plan evolved, a restoration project designed by the Sydney Cove Authority that was to turn The Rocks into an appealing place to work and play.

Historic warehouses and cottages became specialty stores and restaurants. Cells in the old Rocks police station were converted to craft shops. Secluded courtyards became settings for tea time. And some of the dingy row houses—once occupied by laborers' families—now are cozy homes for longtime residents of The Rocks.

Leases from buildings and land controlled by the authority provide enough income to keep The Rocks from being a burden on taxpayers.

"It hasn't been easy," McDonald says. "There has been heartache, even hatred, along the way. But now things are blossoming, and we are very, very grateful."

There are new high rises, too, but only as a backdrop on the uphill edge of The Rocks. The lofty additions



Darling Harbour in Sydney was given a multimillion-dollar facelift in recent years.

Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

Land of Oz From page 1

Bounty, the gorgeous sailing ship built for Mel Gibson's "Mutiny on the Bounty," which now offers lunch and dinner cruises—accompanied by actors' salty banter—around Sydney's beautiful central harbor.

I scopped famous Bondi Beach. I gawked at the gorgeous seaward views. I inhaled in the fragrance of eucalyptus and marveled at the figs, palms and other tropical foliage that flourishes everywhere. I jogged with a friend at daybreak through King's Cross, the city's red-light district, using the prone bodies of a few smacked-out locals as convenient hurdles. I checked out Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman's manse, drove through the tragically hip Darlinghurst section and toured the city's most instantly recognizable feature—the almost absurdly dramatic Sydney Opera House—which resembles, depending on whom you listen to, a set of sails, an alien craft or a peeled orange.

I was awestruck by the hypnotically intricate aboriginal bark paintings and other pieces in the Yirihana Gallery within the Art Gallery of New South Wales, the largest exhibit of its kind in the world.

And I ate great—even had breakfast with a wombat at the Taronga Zoo—and got a not-to-be-missed, 360-degree view of Sydney from the needle-nosed Sydney Tower. Mostly, I heard how sorry the New York-like Sydney-siders were that I was about to be forced to exit their glorious metropolis for Melbourne, a place they tend to disdain as staid, stagnant and, well... hopelessly British.

"When visitors come here, they say, 'It's very British, isn't it?'" explained a Melbourne friend who, naturally, had his own ideas about the character of Sydney and its denizens.

"When Brits come here, they say, 'It's very American, isn't it?'" Actually, Melbourne is just itself: a hip hybrid. It's a livable, culturally aware, sports-happy city of more than 3 mil-

lion. Known for its art and architecture, it's the kind of town that still uses its trolleys as transportation. The kind of place where, at noontime, you can see business suits barbecuing their lunches in the park on the banks of the Yarra River. It's a town that can support 34 live theater companies and the series of sophisticated, world-class venues that make up the Victorian Arts Center.

Melbourne, situated picturesquely on Port Phillip Bay, fancies itself the home of the Big Event. For me, it was

It's truly hard for foreigners—well, me, anyway—to grasp that these people actually declare a state holiday every year to celebrate a three-minute horse trot. And the hat thing... well, maybe you have to be descended from Brits to get it.

During my stay, I attended several performances—from a gloomy postmodern opera in a dockside warehouse to a Barbara Cook cabaret revue in the Arts Center's cushy seats—that were part of the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts, a genuine Big Event celebrating its 10th year. I wandered through the city's enormous new casino, which boasts more gaming tables than any in the world. I ate a multi-course meal aboard a moving trolley (now the pleasantly touristy Colonial Tramcar Restaurant).

And I shopped. I prowled bohemian Brunswick Street, upmarket Chapel Street and the immense, fleamarket Victoria Market, where you can snag clothes, vegetables and

everything in between. ("In Melbourne," confided a newly made friend, "shopping is not a habit. It's a career.")

Then there was... The Cup.

It's truly hard for foreigners—well, me, anyway—to grasp that these people actually declare a state holiday every year to celebrate a three-minute horse trot. And the hat thing... well, maybe you have to be descended from Brits to get it.

Nevertheless, catching Cup fever is tremendous fun, requiring as it does champagne for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Although it's a megabucks proposition for many, bets can be placed for as little as 50 cents Australian. And while society types parade their headgear in the members' boxes, the real people clink Fosters bottles on the lawn, parading their own, often inspired, parodies. (Amazingly, this race is just the center-piece in a series known as the Spring Racing Carnival.)

Cup hysteria—the very concept of it—is just one of the things that makes Melbourne, and Australia in general,

worth the trip. The best reason to go is the people. Maybe it's their temperate climate, or their nothing-to-lose ancestors, or the fact there's just more room to breathe there. Whatever, Aussies are friendly humans, and they've created a welcoming culture.

Gazing into the sky late one night just before coming home, there came another little epiphany: The stars were in new places. To my North American eyes, they were deliciously mixed up, randomly tossed sparkles on black velvet.

I made a wish. If it comes true, Oz, I'll be back.

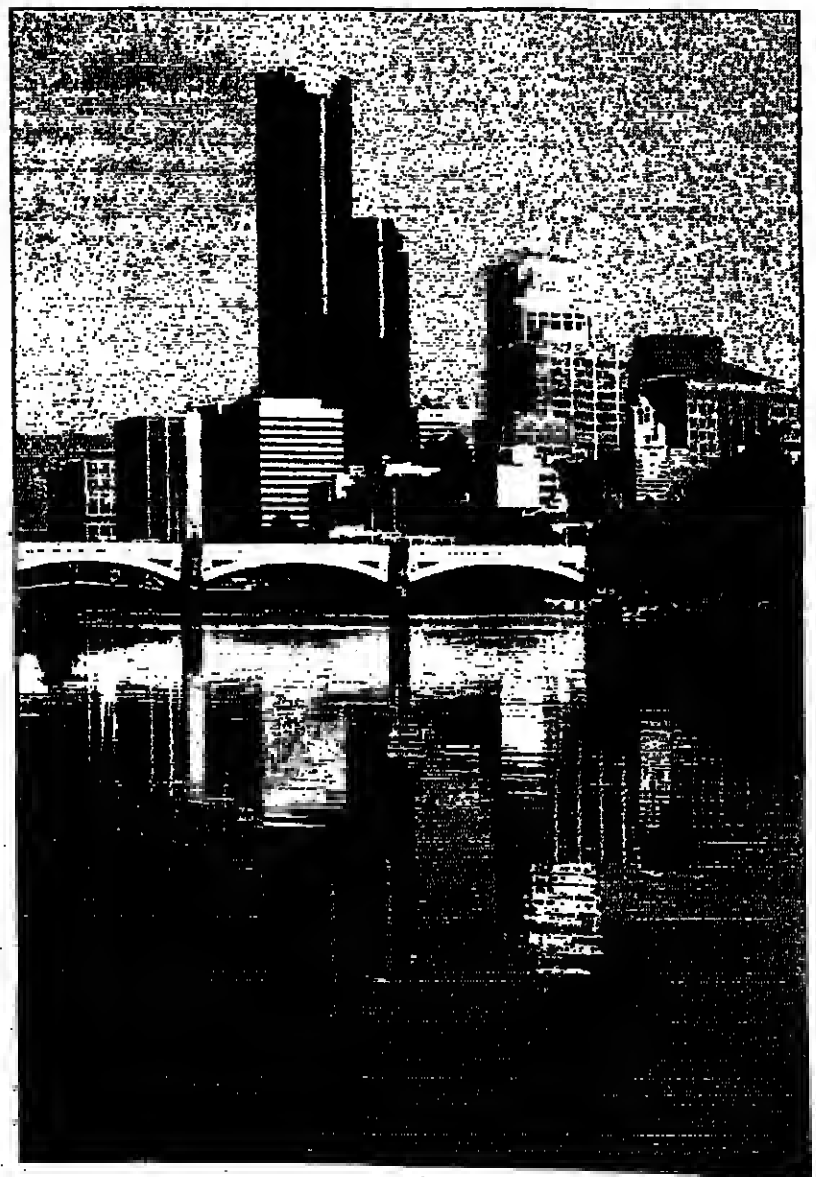
Freelancer Mary Gillespie's trip was hosted by the Australian Tourist Commission.

Talking About Down Under

The language they speak in Oz isn't English, exactly. It's... Australian. Or Aussie—pronounced with z's, not s's—as those nickname-happy denizens of Down Under would say.

Here's a short language survival guide:

- Ocker = Australian
- kanga = money
- big mickles = big money
- shrapnel = small change
- done like a dinner = tired, drunk or both
- have a bleee = have an argument, usually with a mate (friend)
- broily = umbrella
- stone the crows! = darn it!
- (faster than) a rat up a drainpipe = in a hurry
- come the raw prawn = yeah, right
- (he) couldn't rip the skin off a rice pudding = wimp
- dunny = outside toilet
- (I have a) mouth like a cocky's cage = hangover
- ta = thanks
- no worries = you're welcome, it's OK
- she'll be right = it's OK
- g'day (pronounced g'die) = hi, goodbye
- fair dinkum = genuine, true



The Yarra River, which flows through Melbourne, is used for various recreational activities.

Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

July 16 1996

Court to decide whether to continue Zo Artzenu trial on February 26

HERB KENON

THE Zo Artzenu sedition trial resumed in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday, with a special three-judge panel setting February 26 as the day they will rule on a defense motion to throw out the case.

Defense attorneys Sefi Elon and Yair Berger, representing Zo Artzenu heads Moshe Feigin, Shmuel Sackit, and Benny Elon, essentially repeated the arguments they made during the first hearing last month. At that hearing, they argued the case should be dismissed because the indictment does not spell out specific dates, times, or locations to back up the sedition charges.

At the initial hearing, Judges Amnon Cohen, Shulamit Dotan, and Zvi Zibbertal gave the prosecution an additional two weeks to flesh out the indictment.

The Jerusalem District Attorney's Office presented the court yesterday with an addendum to the original indictment, listing 13 publications, videos, newspaper articles, and television interviews to back up the charge sheet. The

three are charged with sedition and eight other offenses stemming from the Zo Artzenu protest campaign last summer.

The addendum, counseled Sefi Elon, is not specific and "does not change anything."

Court President Cohen said that if the court does not dismiss the case, the trial will begin in mid-April.

Feigin said after the hearing that the timing of the trial, if the case is not dismissed, is "perfect," since it will take place in the midst of the election campaign.

"We will bring experts who will prove the crimes of the present government. In contrast to the government, everyone will realize that our acts can only be seen as acts of good citizenship," he said.

Feigin charged the government with using the State Attorney's Office to quell opposition, saying that the real purpose of the trial is to keep Zo Artzenu leaders busy with the case and not leading a protest movement, and to "destroy our public image, to portray us as criminals."

Shahal speaks out in favor of administrative detentions

LIAT COLLINS

INTERNAL Security Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday justified the administrative detention of Rabbi Aryeh Friedman and Shmuel Citryn.

Answering a motion to the agenda by MK Yosef Ba-Gad (independent), Shahal said administrative detention is aimed at preventing incidents which could threaten public safety and national security. In both cases, he added, there is sufficient evidence that were the men to be freed, they would carry out violent acts.

Shahal said Friedman had been trying to obtain weapons with which to attack politicians involved in the peace process; had expressed support for Yitzhak Rabin's assassination; called for Shimon Peres's murder; and said that

only concern for his 17 children had prevented him from acting. "I cannot provide you all the information pertaining to his case, but he provides a threat to public safety," Shahal said.

Regarding Citryn, Shahal said the High Court had upheld his continued detention on the grounds he could represent a threat to the public, particularly during the IDF pullout from the area near his Kiryat Arba home.

"The court determined that nothing less than detention would prevent him from taking dangerous action," Shahal said.

Both Ba-Gad and Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) spoke out against the detentions, and said the men do not deserve imprisonment without trial.

Zionist Forum to help defend immigrant couple accused of child abuse

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE legal defense of a Petah Tikva immigrant couple, charged with causing bodily harm to their twin baby daughters, will be paid for by the Zionist Forum.

The forum took the unusual step of deciding to pay for the case after becoming convinced that the immigrants from the Ukraine are not guilty and that they had been stigmatized in some of the media, a forum official said yesterday.

Natasha and Yuri Mamantov are being charged with causing the two-month-old twins bodily harm, on the basis of an investigation carried out by government pathologist Dr. Yehuda Hiss, who found that the babies' skulls had been cracked by a hard object.

The twins are currently hospitalized at the Schneider Children's Hospital in Petah Tikva.

Forum director Ariella Ravdal, who personally investigated the case, said yesterday that the Mamantovs' neighbors and acquaintances are convinced an injustice was being done to them.

"One of the reasons the couple made aliyah was to ensure that they would have good medical care, as the mother was in a high-risk group as an asthma sufferer," she said. Natasha Mamantov is a qualified nurse who noticed that the babies had problems following a vacuum birth and took them to the doctor herself, Ravdal added.

Yuri Mamantov was detained after police searched the apartment for a weapon and was forced to sign documents in Hebrew which he does not understand, she said. The grandmother was also questioned.

Experts deride Sneh's free drugs proposal

JUDY SEGEL

HEALTH Minister Ephraim Sneh's proposal to dispense free prescription drugs to all is an "extremely bad idea" that would lead to overuse of medications and increased hospitalizations, according to Dr. Zvi Fenton, an independent consultant on drugs who formerly was head of pharmaceutical registration at the Health Ministry.

Britain tried this policy at the beginning of its national health service, but quickly canceled it because of these problems, Fenton said.

Dr. Ya'acov Glazer of Tel Aviv University, an expert on the economics of the health system, agreed, saying that

throughout the Western world, lack of self-participation in the costs of medications has led to increased use.

"Not all drugs are a matter of life and death. There are medications that are much more expensive, but offer only marginal improvements in patients, but they will demand them free. If a decision is taken to provide prescription drugs free, this should encompass only those that are vital for the chronically ill."

Health Ministry spokeswoman Yifat Ben-Hai dismissed the experts' claims, saying the minister "was honestly concerned about the cost of drugs, especially on the elderly."

Senior citizens' discount card available soon

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir yesterday issued instructions for implementing the Senior Citizens Law, which grants a series of discounts and reductions for men over 65 and women over 60.

Namir said her ministry will issue a public tender for senior citizen cards.

According to the new law, passed Tuesday, senior citizens will get a 30 percent reduction in municipal taxes (arvona) for apartments of up to 100 square meters, or on the first 100 square meters in the case of bigger apartments. The reduction will come into effect retroactively as of January 1 this year.

Senior citizens will also be eligible for a 50% reduction on television license fees, public transportation, medicines, and admission to museums, theaters, public parks, exhibitions etc.

The cost of all the reductions is estimated at an annual NIS 180 million.



Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal points something out to Prime Minister Shimon Peres at yesterday's ceremony renaming the Border Police training base at Mithmash in honor of Yitzhak Rabin. Behind Peres is Police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz. (Zevah Vezahava)

Gov't decision on Green Line 'separation plan' due next week

BILL HUTMAN

THE government is to make a final decision next week on the much talked about "separation plan" for preventing Palestinians from illegally crossing the Green Line, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday.

Shahal said he believes the government will give the go-ahead for a stripped down version of the original plan that would cost some NIS 247 million over the next two years. The original plan was slated to cost more than NIS 500m.

Many of the state-of-the-art border patrol technologies, massive fences, and large border-crossing stations originally part of the plan were cut to save money, according to police sources.

Instead, the new plan centers on increased patrols, using an array of off-road vehicles and helicopters in a

several kilometer-wide sector running along the Green Line. Less than a dozen kilometers of fences are included in the new plan, the sources said.

"We hope to have an answer next week," said Shahal, speaking to reporters at a ceremony at which the Border Police training base at Mithmash was renamed in memory of Yitzhak Rabin.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Yuval Rabin, the late prime minister's son, attended the ceremony. They were given demonstrations by the Border Police undercover unit, the police anti-terror unit, and motorcycle anti-terror squad.

Shahal said NIS 90m. of the funding for the separation plan would be released "immediately after the plan's approval," so steps could be taken quickly to prevent infiltration.

MKs seek to fire Peres's haredi PR man

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

LABOR MKs yesterday urged party leaders to convince Prime Minister Shimon Peres to fire public relations man Rabbi Dudi Zilberschlag, hired to "sell" Peres and Labor to the haredi community, because of his alleged connections with Kach leaders.

Zilberschlag, whose services

were hired by Minister Yossi Beilin, has a public relations agency in Bnei Brak. He headed Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert's successful campaign in the haredi sector during the mayoral elections.

Zilberschlag is rumored to be a close friend of Kach leader Baruch Marzel and one of the heads of the Society for Preservation of Holy Sites.

However, sources in the Prime Minister's Office denied that Peres has a public relations or media adviser working in the haredi sector.

Ministers act to ease plight of Ethiopian immigrants

BATSHEVA TSUR

A WIDE-RANGING series of steps designed to ease the plight of Ethiopian immigrants was adopted yesterday by the ministerial committee on absorption, which convened under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

The meeting followed last week's violent demonstration by thousands of immigrants, during which Peres met with leaders of the community and promised to look into their grievances.

Addisu Messala, head of the Unified Organizations of Ethiopian Immigrants, who participated in both meetings, last night expressed satisfaction with the decisions, but said the community wants to see "visual results."

"The personal involvement of the prime minister and the continued efforts by Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban, who has always had our interests at heart, are very encouraging," Messala said. "But often decisions are not carried out fully. We are hoping to see concrete steps in a short time."

Among more than 30 resolutions adopted yesterday was a decision that the Education Ministry immediately set aside a budget for examining oodds of Ethiopian pupils in the special education system and for increasing extra lessons for weak pupils and those about to do matricula-

tion examinations.

The question of blood donations - the central issue over which last week's demonstration was held - was not mentioned directly in the communique released following the meeting. It stated merely that "the Health Ministry had taken upon itself to co-opt immigrants onto the professional teams dealing with the formulation and implementation of health programs relating to the community, while making a special effort to increase information and health education."

The question of immigrant suicides in the IDF and integration of immigrant soldiers was discussed earlier in meetings between Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and senior officers and leaders of the community. The ministers decided to set up an advisory committee of community leaders, to increase the number of persons dealing with these soldiers, and to set up a soldiers' hot line.

Other matters dealt with at yesterday's ministerial meeting include the housing problem of single immigrants, reforms in help granted to students, increasing employment among women in the community, employing Ethiopian immigrants in the civil service, and speeding up the building of community synagogues.

A designer sweater for every worker

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

OUUMAN Knitting Mills' winter line is expected to be the most highly styled collection ever to come off the Ofakim textile plant's production line - though it may also be the last.

Three of Israel's top fashion designers - Doreen Frankfurt, Gershon Bram, and Yuval Caspin, who agreed to design the sweaters in an effort to prevent Ouman's closure - began working on the collection yesterday.

Polgat closed the plant in December and dismissed all its workers. But last week the workers, backed by the Histadrut, reopened the plant and resumed operation with their own management team.

The designers met Ouman's worker-management team in Frankfurt's studio yesterday. They were shown a sample of the various sweaters Ouman's machines can produce and plan a trip to Ofakim to check out the facilities and materials.

During Ouman's closure for nearly six weeks, the Histadrut obtained orders for more than

200,000 sweaters from large unions, corporations, and the IDF, as well as from abroad.

Under the agreement reached earlier this week between the Histadrut and Polgat, Polgat will continue operating Ouman for 45 days, during which it will negotiate with private entrepreneurs interested in buying the plant.

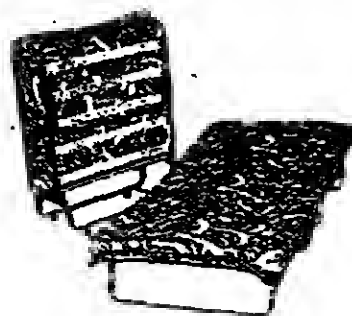
However, it is not clear whether Ouman can remain open after the 45 days. Moreover, Polgat has said it has no intention of producing the 200,000 sweaters ordered by workers' unions, saying it would not be not profitable.

Polgat also dismissed the Histadrut's bid to purchase Ouman, calling the Histadrut's offer uneconomical and not serious.

Earlier this week, Polgat signed an agreement with the Histadrut on the severance and pension conditions for Ouman's 184 workers. Polgat also agreed to give workers with 10 years' seniority and three months to retirement age pension rights in the Mivtahim pension fund until they reach retirement.

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Order form for The Post Mart. Includes fields for To: (c/o The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000), Please deliver: (Folding Bed, Ros'Anne's Hostess Table), Payment options (Visa, Isracard, Diners, CC No., Name, Address, City, Code, Tel, ID No., Signature), and delivery terms (Monthly payments charged date of order, 30, 60 days; Delivery charge to be deducted from first payment).

Buchanan scores stunning victory

JUA NYLA HUTCHESON
BATON ROUGE, Louisiana

CONSERVATIVE columnist Pat Buchanan scored a stunning victory Tuesday in the first skirmish of the 1996 US presidential race, dealing a deadly blow to Texas Sen. Phil Gramm.

The vote came in presidential caucuses in the southern state of Louisiana, which was expected to be a Gramm stronghold. Apart from Gramm and Buchanan, only conservative radio talk show host Alan Keyes entered the contest.

With all the votes in, Buchanan won 62 percent of the vote to Gramm's 38%. That was enough to give Buchanan 13 delegates to the Republican national convention while Gramm took eight.

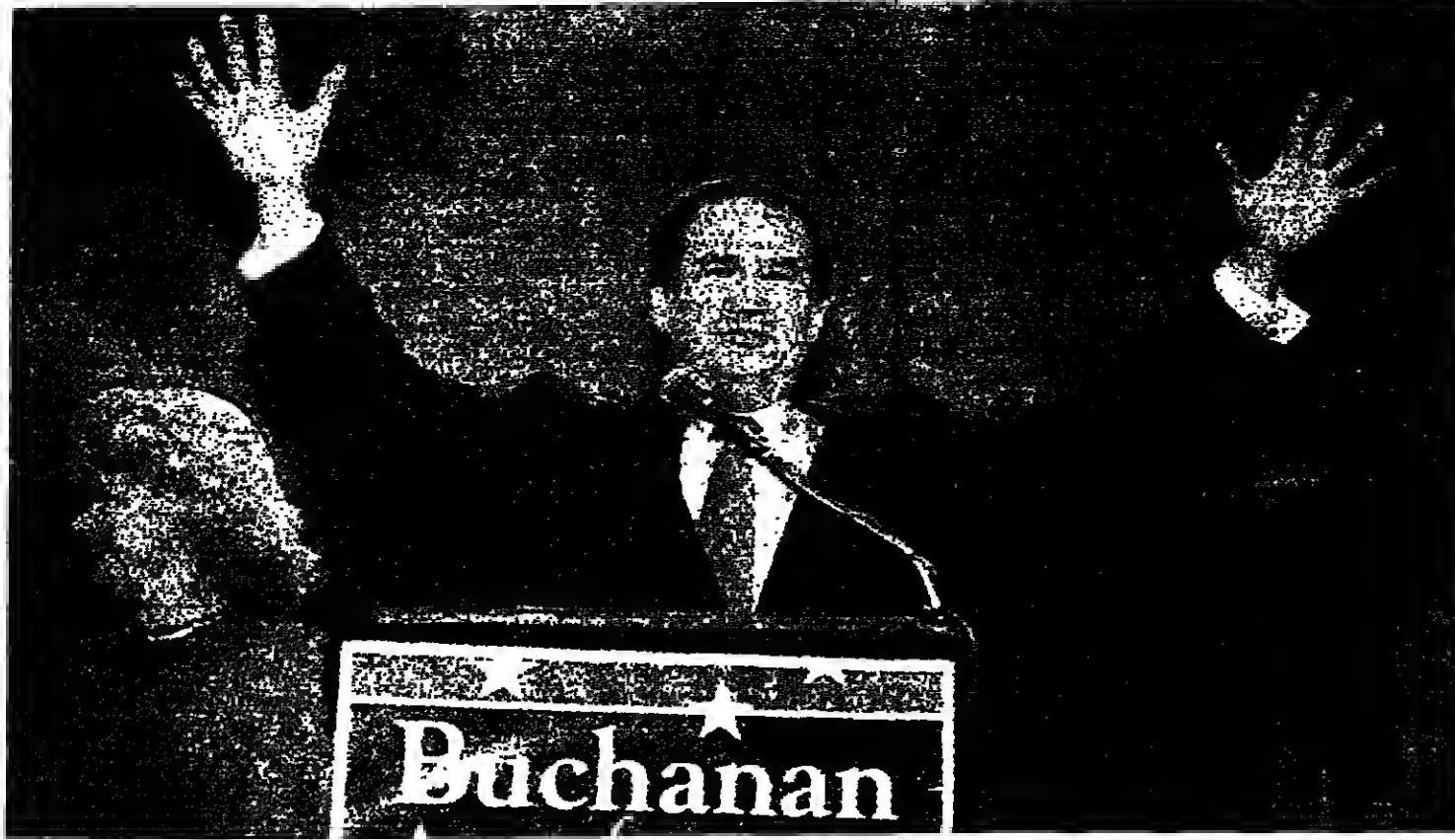
Six Republican candidates, including Senate Majority Bob Dole and publisher Steve Forbes, sat out the election to preserve the traditional status of Iowa and New Hampshire as the first states to vote. Iowa holds its caucuses, viewed as the first major test of the campaign, on Monday.

The Republican presidential nominee needs 996 delegates at the national convention to ensure selection.

With Cajun music playing, an excited Buchanan claimed a major victory. "The battle of the bayou is over and it has ended in a great triumph for the Buchanan brigades."

"This is a victory for a new conservatism of the heart... This is a conservatism of faith, family and country," he declared.

According to exit polls, Buchanan won due mainly to a



Republican presidential candidate Pat Buchanan waves to supporters Tuesday night after his upset win in Louisiana. (AP)

heavier than expected turnout by ultra-conservative religious Christian voters.

His populist campaign, playing heavily on protectionist rhetoric, also won him the support of lower income voters.

However, only around 30,000

of the state's 486,000 registered Republicans showed up to vote in the election.

The Louisiana vote was a heavy, perhaps even a deadly blow for Gramm, who comes from a neighboring state and had confidently predicted picking up

all 21 delegates to the Republican national convention.

Buchanan, who last week won the backing of Louisiana's newly elected Republican Gov. Mike Foster, mounted an unexpectedly strong campaign.

"This is a major upset for

Gramm and it's the only thing that makes the caucuses interesting," said Wayne Parent, a Louisiana State University analyst.

"This is shaping up to be a three-man race between Dole, Forbes and Buchanan," he said.

(Reuters)

Poland gets new cabinet, easing spy crisis

WARSAW (Reuters) - President Aleksander Kwasniewski appointed a reshuffled left-wing cabinet yesterday, easing the political crisis into which Poland had been plunged by Prime Minister Jozef Oleksy's resignation over spy allegations.

"This government of [Prime Minister] Wlodzimir Cimoszewicz will be proof of Poland's stability... proof we can act effectively and credibly towards society and the world," a relieved Kwasniewski said after swearing in the new ministers.

The new prime minister earlier announced that the two ruling partners in the uneasy coalition had finally clinched a deal after nearly two weeks of wrangling over key posts and policy principles.

"This government will continue the economic, foreign and social policy of the previous cabinets," Cimoszewicz, of the ex-communist Democratic Left Alliance (SLD), said at the ceremony fol-

lowing a final tense round of talks with the smaller Peasant party (PSL).

Cimoszewicz will now have to make a policy speech in parliament and submit the cabinet to a vote of confidence, which it is sure to pass with the nearly two-thirds parliamentary majority the coalition won in 1993 polls.

Poland's politics have been in upheaval since campaigning began for presidential elections which resulted in the ex-communist Kwasniewski's November 19 victory over former Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

In one of his last acts as president, Walesa oversaw the December revelation of security service allegations that the SLD's Oleksy had informed for Moscow spies until becoming prime minister last year.

Oleksy denies the allegations but quit last month, prompting tough talks between the coalition parties which at times seemed close to failure.

Bosnia peace in crisis over officers' arrest

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The Bosnian peace process was in serious crisis yesterday when Bosnian Serb anger at the seizure of two of their officers boiled over and a fault-line appeared in the Muslim-Croat alliance.

The UN War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague asked the Muslim-led Bosnian government to arrest provisionally the two officers, General Djordje Djukic and Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic, saying it was considering indicting them for atrocities.

NATO urged restraint. But the Serbs, who say the two senior officers were negotiators on their way to a meeting with NATO officials, said the entire peace process was under threat.

"General Djukic must be released if peace is to be reached in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina," said General Milan Gvero, deputy commander of the Bosnian Serb army general staff.

Bosnian Serb army commander General Ratko Mladic, himself

indicted for war crimes, broke two months of silence to threaten to freeze contacts with the NATO-led Dayton peace Implementation Force (IFOR).

Bosnian Serb "prime minister" Rajko Kasagic called off meetings with international mediator Carl Bildt and Britain's Prince Charles in Sarajevo later this week, pursuing a Serb boycott of all contacts on Bosnian government territory.

Another threat to the survival of a single Bosnian state as envisaged by the peace accord negotiated in Dayton, Ohio, in November, emerged in the southwestern town of Mostar.

Local Croat leaders rejected the arbitration of the European Union over the town's future and announced they were breaking off relations with the EU.

Several hundred angry Croats occupied EU offices and kicked and jumped on the roof of a car containing chief arbitrator Hans Koschmick for an hour, an EU spokesman said.

Dublin proposes 'Dayton' talks on N. Ireland

DUBLIN (Reuters) - Ireland proposed yesterday that the London and Dublin governments use the format of the Dayton, Ohio, talks on Bosnia to breathe life into the deadlocked Northern Ireland peace process.

The proposal, announced by Foreign Minister Dick Spring, seeks to bring rival Northern Ireland parties under the same roof because they will not sit at the same negotiating table.

"We propose that they [the parties] should all be invited to the same building for two days of intensive talks similar to Dayton," Spring said after talks with Britain's Northern Ireland

Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew.

US mediator Richard Holbrooke brought all of Bosnia's warring parties and government sponsors to Dayton, Ohio, late last year for indirect "proximity" talks that led to direct negotiations and eventually a peace plan now being implemented and overseen by NATO.

Spring said Britain had not given full agreement to the proposal, but added that he thought it was the best way of securing progress in a peace process that has hardly moved since rival guerrillas declared cease-fires in 1994.

Mayhew had left for London by the time Spring made the announcement, but British

officials, who have proposed elections in the province as a way forward, were cool to the idea.

"The Irish government is well aware of our view that such a proposal is at best premature in the absence of evidence that such talks could be called successfully," one official said.

"The idea of proximity talks, I am afraid, does not appear to advance the issue," the official added.

Northern Ireland's Unionist parties, which want the province to stay British, refuse to talk with the IRA's political wing, Sinn Fein, until the IRA disarms.

189 feared dead in air crash

PUERTO PLATA, Dominican Republic (AP) - A charter jetliner carrying German tourists home from the Caribbean crashed into shark-infested waters off the Dominican Republic. There were no signs yesterday that any of the 189 people aboard had survived.

Aircraft and boats searching the waters off the Dominican Republic's north coast spotted bodies, empty life rafts and debris scattered over five square kilometers. At least 59 bodies were recovered, but divers were wary of entering the water.

There was no immediate information on the cause of the crash late Tuesday, but the Boeing 757 had been substituted at the last minute. The plane took off in light rain, then abruptly turned around and appeared to head back for land. The pilot did not radio the control tower about any problems, Dominican aviation officials said.

The plane, bound for Frankfurt and Berlin, was owned by a Turkish company, Birgen Air, and leased to a Dominican airline, Alas de Transporte Internacional. The airline was shut down temporarily in 1993 after failing to meet international safety standards. The German government said the 757 was uninsured and had no permission to fly to Germany.

US Coast Guard Lt. Lincoln Benedict in San Juan, Puerto Rico, said pilots had spotted sharks in the area of the crash site. "The area is shark-infested," Benedict said. "It obviously would hamper recovery of either survivors or bodies from the water."

At least 59 bodies were recovered and brought to Puerto Plata, Dominican Ambassador Edmund Duckwitz said. There were no reports of survivors; four children had been aboard the plane.

Pope arrives in Nicaragua to warmer welcome

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) - Pope John Paul II brought a message of peace and reconciliation to Nicaragua yesterday and found a welcome far warmer than during his first, troubled trip here.

"In 1983, you found our country painfully divided by ideologies foreign to our nature... We could not demonstrate our affection as

we would have liked," President Violeta Chamorro told the pope at the airport.

Chamorro, a devout Roman Catholic who defeated the leftist Sandinista government in 1990, welcomed John Paul with a voice almost breaking with emotion.

John Paul, saying he brought a message of "peace and reconcilia-

tion," called on Nicaraguans to seek "an authentic revitalization of traditional moral values" as they head toward elections in October.

A crowd cheered as the pope stepped from the plane that carried him from Guatemala. A brisk wind whipped at his white vestments as he waved to the crowd.

He kissed Chamorro on the

Swiss bankers narrow search for Jewish money to \$32m.

ZURICH (AP) - Swiss banks have narrowed to 38.7 million Swiss francs (\$32.3 million) the amount in pre-World War II accounts that could have belonged to Jews who died in the Holocaust.

The Swiss Bankers Association said yesterday that it had found 775 unclaimed accounts and deposits of foreign clients with 36 institutions from the period.

It said it would circulate to banks an initial list of inquiries from heirs in April and contact rightful owners immediately.

The latest announcement was based on an examination more thorough than a preliminary survey of 12 banks last year. The association said then that it had found 893 possible accounts worth 41 million francs (currently \$34 million).

The latest announcement said the actual number was lower because the banks determined the

owners of a number of apparently dormant accounts had survived the war.

The Swiss bankers started looking for unclaimed Holocaust assets last year after Jewish organizations accused them of hoarding up to \$7 billion belonging to Holocaust victims.

Many Jews are believed to have risked the death penalty to smuggle their money, jewels and other wealth out of German-controlled territory to Swiss banks.

Last September, the association announced new measures to help heirs search for lost assets. It said yesterday that as of the end of January, it had received 323 such requests for help.

The association acknowledged it would be difficult for descendants of Nazi victims to present documents needed for proof of legitimacy, and said it might accept substitute documents with

adequate explanations or declarations.

"The reasons for assuming that assets may be in Switzerland are often only vaguely substantiated," an association statement said. "It appears that, in many cases, it is hope rather than a supposition or even factual knowledge."

The latest examination found 516 accounts, worth 28.5 million francs (\$23.75 million), that were opened from Germany or from countries that were occupied by Germany during the war, the association said.

It said the other accounts and deposits were from Germany's Axis ally Italy.

Switzerland and its banks have made previous attempts to satisfy Jewish claims, including the 1962 bandover of 9.5 million francs (\$7.9 million at 1996 rates) to Swiss charities for Jews and refugees.

Brooklynite receives mazal tov, 5 times over

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

IT'S a boy, a girl, a girl, a girl, and a boy.

Prina Klaver, a Brooklyn mother of two, became a mother of seven just before midnight Monday when she delivered quintuplets.

The odds were one in 48 million. The babies, born 13 weeks prematurely, each weighed between 1 pound, 9 ounces and 1 pound, 14 ounces.

The infants were listed in stable condition at Long Island Jewish Medical Center. They require treatment for immature lungs.

Klaver, 37, and her husband, Shmuel, already had two sons, David, 12, and Steven, 10. But then she had problems conceiving. Prina Klaver, who ran a support group for infertile women, had been taking the fertility drug Perganol.

In the Orthodox community, "you feel a sense of shame and failure if you cannot conceive," she told *The New York Times*.

"This was not multiple chromosomes falling into place," Shmuel Klaver said at a news conference. "God was taking a front row seat for this one."

Klaver, a drummer, has appealed to the public for financial assistance in caring for the kids.

The Klaver quint is the 42nd surviving set in the United States.

Major in trouble over arms to Iraq

LONDON (AP) - Delivering a potential landmine to Prime Minister John Major's government, a judge yesterday handed over his report on how officials bent rules to arm Iraq.

The embarrassing saga threatens the political survival of a cabinet minister and of the attorney general.

The inquiry was provoked by the trial of three businessmen on charges of illegal arms sales to Iraq.

Leads from a report, to be published February 15, say it accuses William Waldegrave, an ex-Foreign Office minister who is now Major's chief secretary to the Treasury, of lying to cover up a secret policy switch.

Attorney General Sir Nicholas Lyell is in trouble because he ordered colleagues to sign orders withholding evidence at the arms trial on national security grounds.

Jewish activist to Croatia leader: Don't bury Ustashe guards near Holocaust memorial

ZAGREB (Reuters) - A Croatian Jewish leader has threatened to sue President Franjo Tudjman for desecration if he goes through with a decision to rebury Ustashe death camp guards alongside their victims at a Holocaust memorial.

Slavko Goldstein, a renowned publisher, former opposition leader and former leader of the Croatian Jewish community, wrote an open letter to Tudjman this week, asking him to drop the initiative to "redesign Jasenovac Memorial."

"You now want to transfer the bones of those murdered to Jasenovac, so they lie next to the bones of those they had murdered in a joint memorial ground," Goldstein said. "I will not allow you to do it."

"If your intention is realized I will sue you for desecrating memorial sites and graveyards, as the initiator and the one who gave orders," Goldstein said in a letter published in this week's issue of the independent weekly *Feral Tribune*.

during World War II.

In an address to the nation in January, Tudjman reiterated his intention to turn the memorial of the victims of the fascist regime in Jasenovac into a "memorial ground of the Croatian war victims" of both fascism and communism.

Tudjman sees the turning of Jasenovac into a memorial for Croats fighting on both sides in World War II, and those fallen for Croatian independence from former Yugoslavia, as a step towards "reconciliation of divided Croatia" and reinforcement of national unity.

But the Jewish community bitterly opposes any such move on the grounds that it would "neutralize the symbolic meaning and the historic message" of the Jasenovac memorial as a specifically anti-fascist monument.

"I am calling on you to leave our dead alone. Don't insult them with a forced sense of togetherness which none of them, or us, their descendants, could ever accept," Goldstein said.

"Don't inflame old wounds among the survivors. I am calling on you to give up the morbid unearthing of the bones and graves and, by the same token, of history."

Poland apologizes for Kielce pogrom

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Poland has apologized for a post-World War II massacre of Jews that sent tens of thousands fleeing, leaving just a tiny handful in the country already ravaged by the Holocaust.

In a letter to the World Jewish Congress released on Tuesday, Polish Foreign Minister Dariusz Rosati asked Jews for forgiveness for the infamous Kielce Pogrom of July 4, 1946, in which a mob in the southeastern Polish city killed 42 Jews and wounded 50 more.

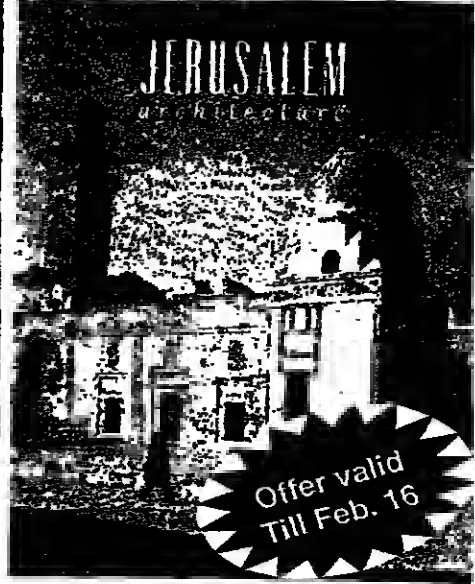
Jews who had survived the Holocaust had been returning to reclaim their property in Kielce when the pogrom took place. News of the massacre spread and an estimated 100,000 Jews left the country.

"The new democratic Poland deeply regrets and mourns all the injustice suffered by the Jewish people," Rosati said. "In 1996 we shall shed tears over the victims of the infamous Kielce pogrom which was committed 50 years ago during the chaos of the Polish civil war."

"We must regard this act of Polish antisemitism as our common tragedy," he continued. "We are ashamed that this tragedy occurred in Poland, the same country where the Nazis built extermination camps. We are ashamed that Poles were the ones who committed the crime. We would like to ask your forgiveness."

He said Poland was committed to solving the problem of making restitution for former Jewish-owned property in Poland.

JERUSALEM architecture



David Kroyanker
Introduction by Teddy Kollek

Jerusalem - approaching its 3,000th birthday, David Kroyanker - architect, town planner, historian, a name associated with the best books on the architecture of this most complex and extraordinary city.

With an introduction by former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, an historical essay by Ralph Mandel, numerous full color illustrations, detailed drawings, chronology, and glossary, this is a beautiful volume covering Jerusalem from the Canaanite period, through the First and Second Temple periods, from Roman times to the present.

This is a remarkable, 210 page, large format book, impressive in its scope and detail.

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Please send \$245 to deliver Jerusalem architecture by David Kroyanker. Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post, for NIS 245/credit card details.

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TV shopping needs fine-tuning



Part of international designer Yves St. Laurent's spring/summer collection features the accentuated waist as well as the return to quieter tastes such as white-colored outfits.

Long skirts, minimalist design

While local designers will not be showing their spring/summer collections till the end of this month, European and American designers have already taken not just to the runways but to the streets.

If initial offerings are anything to go by, it seems that the fashion world is anticipating economic stability. When times are tough, designs are punky, funky and outrageously festive, as if to take our minds off the disquieting situation around us.

When the world is moving nicely on course, fashion is minimalist.

Some designers can't resist adding a decorous touch to their creations, but the look in general is clean, pared down and figure conscious.

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

Forget about tent-like tunics or caftan-style dresses. This will be the summer of the accentuated waist, whether belted or viewed in bare-fleshed beauty over hipster pants.

It will also be a ladylike summer in which the mini will give way to knee-grazing and even mid-calf skirts. Much of the styling is nostalgically reminiscent of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, especially in the classics and the bright prints and colors.

For those with quieter tastes, white and basic black remain perennials, as does beige which this season is teamed with olive drab or khaki in a muted military look.

The little cropped jacket has come back into its own, and makes a perfect mate for a slim-fitting, sleeveless dress or for straight trousers.

If you're surveying last summer's wardrobe and wondering what you can salvage, start with the white blouses, especially those which are untrimmed. A beige safari jacket will also come in handy.

The return of longer skirts will be welcomed by many women, but the best revival of all is at ground level, where shoes have shed their clunky image. We're back to spike-heeled, ankle-strap sandals, elegant pumps with wingless heels, and flats that look - well - dainty. It was a long wait, but it was worth it.

A day in the life of cyberspace

In Malaysia, they are tracking elephants using global positioning satellites. In the Arctic, they are dog-sledding into villages to teach residents how to use the Internet. And in New York, they are playing chess with kids in California.

More than 150 photographers in 31 countries are expected to spend today recording people from around the world as they live their lives in cyberspace. The result - dozens of images and written accounts - will be posted in one collection on the Internet.

The \$5 million effort, called "24 Hours in Cyberspace," is the brainchild of Rick Smolan, whose best-selling book in the 1980s called *A Day in the Life of America* launched a series of coffee-table books devoted to a single theme.

But unlike those projects, the

photos taken today will be processed, scanned, and fitted onto a special Web page - all within the 24-hour period.

"Cyberspace seems like such an incredibly hot topic, which people describe as a mirror, a reflection of our world," Smolan says. "We're going to try and make photos of how cyberspace is changing things."

Among the photographers will be Tipper Gore, who is expected to record the day's activities of her husband, Vice President Al Gore. "We've upped the ante with this one," says Smolan, whose staff and volunteers are overseeing the operation from his small company's office in Sausalito, California. "In the past, we had to coordinate 100 photographers, but we had eight or nine months to make sense of what we had. Now, we're going to do it in one day."

Web browsers, however, will have four days to look at the photos along with accompanying text by freelance writers. Then, on Sunday, Smolan's company, Agaiot All Odds Productions, will close down the home page and edit the best photos into a book and a CD-ROM to be published next fall.

Perhaps the biggest challenge will be technological. Smolan said many of the photographers are being trained to use digital cameras, download their images into a laptop computer, and send them to his headquarters by using a telephone modem.

The 24-Hours in Cyberspace home page can be called up at <http://www.Cyber24.com> and can be found on the Internet 1996 World Exposition at <http://park.org/>. (Newsday)

Couch potatoes with cable TV can now enjoy remote-control shopping. Channel 21 - a televised catalog of items ranging from jewelry to gym equipment - is, with the exception of the northern Sharo area and Galilee, now available throughout the country.

Enchanted by a pair of children's overalls advertised on the shopping channel, A.B. picked up the phone and dialed the toll-free number flashing across the screen. The woman taking her order for two pairs of the pants very politely requested and registered all relevant information (name, address, size of the overalls and credit card number).

The next day, A.B. told a friend about the overalls she'd seen on TV. When her friend indicated that she, too, would like to purchase a pair, A.B. had an idea. "I'll call back. If my order hasn't been processed yet, I'll ask for an additional pair," she suggested. This way, there would be only one delivery charge.

When A.B. phoned to make the extra order, a different assistant took her call. After typing up her customer number, he announced to A.B. that there was no record of her order on the computer.

"What should I do now?" she asked. "Make another order," he answered. "Something must have gone wrong with the computer." A.B.'s friend, at this point, changed her mind about buying the overalls. A.B. put in a new order for two pairs.

Several days later, A.B. received a package from the shopping channel. In it were four pairs of overalls, and a bill for two separate sets of deliveries! Again, A.B. phoned the sta-

CAVEAT EMPTOR: RUTHIE BLUM

tion, this time to complain. She was told to wait for someone to pick up the extra items from her home.

"What about a refund?" she asked. "Thirty days after we receive the merchandise back, your credit-card account will be refunded for the extra two pairs," said the assistant.

Two weeks passed. When A.B. was not contacted by the shopping channel, she asked me to investigate. She wants to know why her money can only be refunded after a 30-day wait, and why it has taken so long for the extra merchandise to be collected.

It turns out that A.B. was given inaccurate information. A customer may return any item within 30 days, for any reason. If the item is damaged, or - as in the case of A.B. - a mistake in the order is made, the station will come and pick up the merchandise from the customer's home. If the merchandise is being returned due to a change of heart, then the customer must send it through the mail.

As soon as the merchandise is returned, the customer's account is credited. If the purchase is made with a credit card, the refund indeed may appear only to the bill of the following month. But this depends on the date of purchase relative to the cut-off date of the credit-card bill.

Service division manager Uri Tal attributes the "overall" blunder to "misunderstanding." He says that a "review of the material" for service assistants is in order. He also immediately sent a delivery man to A.B.'s home to pick up the extra two pairs.

According to him, purchases can be paid by check (after the mailed check clears, the merchandise is sent to the customer), or in cash (the merchandise is delivered to a branch of Steimatzky's (with which they have an arrangement) near the customer's home, where it can be paid for on the spot). Arrangements are currently under way to provide a cash-on-delivery option as well.

Judging by the professional fact sheet put out by the PR firm handling the shopping channel, much effort is being invested into making this a reliable, American-like consumer service. Lest A.B. resume stepping her shekels at the shops, however, similar steps must be taken to soothe seething clientele.

TV shoppers take note: Service assistants answer the phone by saying "Hello, this is so-and-so speaking." Write down the name of the person taking your order, as well as the date and hour. This way, if something goes wrong, you will be able to pinpoint the source of the error.

Also, do not hesitate to speak to the supervisor, or to phone the customer service division, if you are dissatisfied. The price of these tele-bought items is often higher than that of store-bought equivalents. Where convenience factors into cost, compensation for inconvenience must be graded accordingly. Toll-free number for orders: 177-022-0021 (24 hours a day). Customer Service: (03) 5116111. Shafir-PR Group Media Consultants (the channel's PR firm): (03) 6957778.

You are invited to ask questions or offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

The 'Wizard of Menlo Park's voice from the musty past crackles back to life

Through the scratchy crackle of a decaying wax cylinder comes a muffled yet vigorous voice - an ethereal message left by the inventor whose genius allowed history's sounds to endure.

He talks of global adventures, of trips on boats and trains to far-flung lands, of technologies barely thought possible.

Thomas A. Edison, whose phonograph let astonished men and women speak to posterity for the first time, has managed to reach from the 19th century and surprise people with his creation yet again.

A previously unknown 1888 cylinder found at the museum that was once his laboratory contains the oldest rendering of his voice known to exist. It reveals an Edison far different from later, more familiar recordings.

This is not the aging businessman-legend speaking, but the vibrant, freshly famous "Wizard of Menlo Park." Edison was 41, flush with the excitement of new inventions.

"He sounds like a man taking on the world," says Jerry Fabris, sound curator at the Edison National Historic Site. Fabris listened to the 154-second recording when it was first played in August.

In it, Edison addresses a "Mr. Blaine," apparently James Gillespie Blaine, a congressman, 1884 presidential candidate and secretary of state. Edison sounds jaunty, whimsical, aware of his once-in-an-epoch mix of pragmatism and technical genius.

"Mr. Blaine, as you've been nearly round the world, I'll take you round the world on the phonograph. I'll not charge you anything." Edison's voice is high-pitched, laced with an undeniable brogue.

He goes on to describe a journey that starts with a steamer trip across the Atlantic Ocean to Liverpool and winds through Europe, northern Africa and Asia before returning by train across the US to New York.

Until now, the earliest known recording of Edison's voice was from 1906, when he was 59. The newly found one was recorded



A recently found 1888 recording of Thomas Edison's voice sounds like a man taking on the world, according to Jerry Fabris, sound curator at the Edison National Historic Site.

shortly after Edison moved to West Orange in 1887 from his workshop in Menlo Park (now called Edison), New Jersey.

THE NEW discovery is a cream-colored, 10-centimeter-long wax cylinder, about the size and shape of an empty toilet-paper roll. It had been on the grounds all along, but when Edison died in 1931 nobody had the wherewithal to go through all his materials. He left 5 million documents, 25,000 flat records, 10,000 cylinders, 65,000 photographs and 500,000 miscellaneous items. All of it went into storage.

"No one outside the few people who inventoried this in 1953 knew [the cylinder] existed. Word never got out," Fabris says. "We weren't sure whether we had what

we had until we heard it."

On August 28, Fabris took the cylinder to the Rodgers and Hammerstein Sound Archives in New York City and played it on a modern machine that exerts less pressure upon fragile cylinders.

He expected a few disjointed words to emerge from the static of decay. Instead, out came Edison, clear and uninterrupted.

"We'd never heard anything like this before," Fabris says. "This is Edison at the peak of his creative years. You hear a very energetic person, a very bold person talking about sending his ideas around the world. On the later ones, he sounds usually very weak. They're greetings, saying hello to the country or 'merry Christmas,' things like that."

Edison first recorded sound in 1877, using a foil cylinder. But he spent the next decade on the light bulb before returning to the phonograph, his favorite invention, and perfecting a wax-cylinder model in June 1888. Fabris believes the newly found recording, one of the earliest in existence, was made months afterward.

The old recording conveys Edison's confidence and humor. At one point, he says: "We'll go to Munich. Or Munchen. I believe they call it Munchen. But that's not a very nice name for me. I, ah, I like to call it Munchen."

And later: "From 'Rome we'll go across the Mediterranean Sea - I don't know but what I'm a little out of my geography - we'll go to Alexandria. Alexandria, through the Suez Canal to the Red Sea, into the Bay of Bengal. And then to uh, Bombay. Bombay we'll probably get the uh, curry, and stay at the hospital two, three months and have lots of fun."

"HE HAD a wicked sense of humor, a wonderful way with words," says Madeleine Edison Sloane, 47, Edison's great-granddaughter. Sloane, named after Edison's daughter, worked at the museum for two summers during college and now is a lawyer in California.

"Fioding this kind of thing can help people remember his curiosity and his work ethic," she says. "He represents passion for what he did. And that's the force of his creativity. You don't see that too often today."

At the museum, Fabris drew a crowd when he first played the recording for the staff. They listened, enchanted, to Edison's verbal world trip. Then America's best-known inventor signed off, ending a moment in time that sat in waxen limbo for generations before its curtain call.

"Now, Mr. Blaine," Edison concludes, "won't you say a few words on another cylinder so my young man can bring it over to the laboratory. I want to put it through a process to get, uh, several hundred duplicate cylinders so other people can hear what you say."

"Uh, goodbye, Edison." (AP)

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Exploiting the covenant

IN his meeting with Secretary of State Warren Christopher yesterday, Yasser Arafat reiterated yet again his frequently made promise: within two months of the elected Palestinian Council's first meeting, he will convene the Palestinian National Council (PNC), known as the Palestinian parliament, to repeal the clauses in the PLO Covenant which call for Israel's destruction.

But a meeting of the PLO executive committee in El-Arish on Tuesday seemed to decide on a way to circumvent this commitment. Instead of repealing the 28 clauses (out of 33) that are offensive to Israel, the PNC will formulate a new covenant, which will serve as the charter of the Palestinian state in the territories.

One member of the executive committee put it explicitly: "The new covenant will be based on the principle of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state whose capital is Jerusalem, a total Israeli withdrawal from all the Palestinian areas in the West Bank and Gaza, the dismantling of settlements, and the delineation of borders between the Palestinian state and Israel."

The idea of formulating a new covenant instead of amending the old one seems to command Arafat's support. "Every era has its own covenant," he told the press. And it fits comfortably with his frequently repeated assertion, made most recently in last week's Stockholm news conference, that the old covenant has anyway been superseded by the PNC's decision to recognize Israel, and by his own 1988 dismissal of the covenant as caducous.

Yet both Arafat and his lieutenants treat the covenant with what can only be described as reverence, comparing it to the Bible and the American Constitution. It is, they have said, a

sacred document that cannot be tampered with. Until recently, Israel insisted that there can be no substitute for an outright, unequivocal repeal of the offensive covenant clauses. Neither a new document nor an evasion in the form of "it is just an irrelevant piece of paper" will do.

Deputy Foreign Minister Eli Dayan was outspoken about this when he heard Arafat saying in Stockholm that the covenant had in effect been rendered invalid. He insisted that Arafat declare that the PNC will be convened for the purpose of repealing the offensive clauses, which Arafat then promised to do on April 12. Now Christopher has obtained the same commitment, albeit without a specific date.

There is little doubt that Arafat will not simply convene the PNC and repeal the PLO covenant. At the very least, he will try to extract Israel's agreement to the establishment of a Palestinian state in return. This will be selling the same goods twice. His initial commitment to repeal the offensive parts of the covenant was made in September 1993, in return for Israel's recognition of the PLO and the signing of the Oslo Declaration of Principles.

The government now seems determined to resist this kind of bargaining and demand that Arafat keep his pledge unconditionally. But Arafat also knows that his decision will affect the Labor Party's chances in the coming Knesset elections. As Dayan put it on Tuesday, "Going to elections without the cancellation of the covenant will cause Labor irreversible damage." It is unlikely that Arafat will not use Labor's need to his advantage.

It must be hoped the unconditional repeal of the genocidal PLO Covenant will not become yet another "red line" the government abandons in its rush to complete the Oslo process.

Aegean ballet

MOST countries subjugated by the Ottoman empire have long since forgotten the experience, but not Greece. Ever since the romantic Greek fight to regain independence in the early 19th century, with the help of Lord Byron, with its stirring bouzouki music and fearless women running fireships against the Ottoman fleet, Greek-Turkish relations have settled into a type of ritual ballet. During the Cold War, these two nominal NATO allies kept the alliance on tenterhooks with periodic eruptions of animosity, which seemed to threaten an embarrassing outbreak of war.

In the past couple of weeks, they've been at it again - escalating a minor shipping incident near some uninhabited Aegean rocks into a warship-to-warship standoff. However, it seems the world's alarm over the reactivation of this eternal feud has been quelled only by the embarrassment of the protagonists for getting themselves embroiled in it. There is something theatrical about these little Aegean dramas - related more to the theater of the absurd than to Sophocles.

By far the most serious risk of war between Greece and Turkey in modern times came in 1974, when the brutal military junta ruling Greece staged a coup in Cyprus and Turkey invaded and occupied the northern third of the island. This was nominally to protect the minority Turkish Cypriots, but in reality to teach the vicious Athens colonels a lesson and prevent them from adding another segment to the Greek Mediterranean arc around Turkey, extending from the Dodecanese Islands through Crete to Cyprus. While the blameless Greek Cypriots paid a terrible price for the folly of their so-called cousins in Athens, the Turkish invasion in fact did the Greek people as a whole a great

favor, since the national humiliation led to the immediate collapse of the dictators and the restoration of democracy. Despite the crisis, mainland Greece and Turkey avoided direct war over Cyprus.

With democracy now firmly established in both countries, their squabbles since 1974 have had more to do with internal domestic politics than with any real desire to change the status quo of their borders. Turkey's over-reaction to a minor spat between the captain of a Turkish ship and the Greek Navy two weeks ago coincided with former Prime Minister Tansu Ciller's efforts to form a new government without turning to Islamic fundamentalists, who took the balance of power in recent elections.

Nothing diverts domestic attention in either country better than the threat of "aggression" from the traditional enemy. In 1983, former prime minister Andreas Papandreu turned to buffing and puffing about Aegean oil exploration to divert attention from his miserable policy failures at home and in Europe. Since the recent snarling over the islets of Imia (Kardak to the Turks) was Turkey's sideshow, it was not surprising that Greece accepted with some alacrity yesterday a US proposal to send the dispute to the International Court at The Hague.

While this dispute has turned out to be less than a storm in a Turkish coffee cup, it has focused some attention on the more serious unresolved dispute over Cyprus. Since a comprehensive solution to reunite Cyprus is being held up by a few minor but intransigent disputes, it must be hoped Washington will oom turn some diplomatic clout in this direction to nudge Greek and Turkish Cypriots to a settlement. The world no longer finds ethnic disputes, even at a theatrical level, very amusing.



The seeing & the blind

Top At least twice Israel has faced the danger of gas attacks by belligerent Arab neighbors. The first time was when Gamal Abdel Nasser massed his Egyptian divisions in Sinai in 1967. Syrians were poised to sweep down from the Golan Heights in a pincer movement.

Israeli generals were aware that Nasser had used poison gas on civilian and military targets when he invaded Yemen a few years previously. There had been not even a whisper of protest from the selective world conscience.

Nasser's resort to gas was one more reason why Israeli pilots had to ensure that the Egyptian planes were crippled in the opening minutes of the war. This would deprive Nasser of the means of bombing Israeli cities with gas.

In 1973, one of the writers of this column was near the Suez canal when warning came that a gas attack was imminent. The same day rubbery gas masks arrived. Because of the desert dust, the soldiers were choking within seconds of trying them out. It was impossible to breathe. The common belief was that in the event of a gas attack, the troops would die either from the gas, or from lack of oxygen.

Neither seemed a happy choice. Fear of a gas attack was justified. Although it was kept secret, black barrels of Egyptian airfields contained toxic poison gas made for Anwar Sadat by German scientists. Intelligence sources believed it was only the fear of massive retaliation that held Sadat back from ordering the gas to be employed against the Israeli forces sweeping across the canal into Egypt.

We raise the matter of Israel's foes being only too ready to use illegal ultimate weapons of war because of the massive "Free Marcus Klingberg" campaign orchestrated by Hebrew newspapers, in which the voices of leftist personalities are strident.

True, Klingberg is today an old, sick man in wretched physical condition after serving 12 years in prison. But why was he put behind bars in the first place? Klingberg was a major figure at Israel's top-secret Ness Ziona institute, where biological and chemical research was carried out. It was research aimed at protecting Israelis from its enemies in the event of war.

Among Israel's bleeding hearts, Klingberg has now become an "ideological spy," which has made him politically kosher, despite the fact that he passed on Israel's most sensitive secrets to the Kremlin.

Just how much data he transmitted is unknown. He was cer-

URI DAN DENNIS EISENBERG

tainly well rewarded. It is generally supposed that a fortune awaits him in a bank somewhere, plus a KGB pension.

This is of no consequence. What is important is what happened five years ago during the Gulf War.

Glossed over today is UN observers' reports of the huge stocks of chemical and bacteriological material Saddam has tucked away. To deliver it, he has rockets armed with warheads containing the deadly material.

It isn't just Kuwait and Saudi Arabia that lie within range of the Iraqis.

Those who equate Klingberg with Pollard should go and stay at one of Peres's Sea of Galilee hotels after he hands the Golan back to Syria.

Iraqi gunners. So does Israel.

One doesn't have to be an obsessive warmonger to believe that Saddam is ready to use his chemical and bacteriological weapons. There are US soldiers still suffering from a mysterious virus which struck them during Operation Desert Storm. Experts on Iraq are convinced that if an ailing Saddam Hussein felt cornered and with nothing to lose, he would not hesitate to unleash his murderous army.

THE ARGUMENT used to demand Klingberg's freedom is that he is no longer a danger to Israel. "There is no KGB to whom he can pass on information still in his head," say his champions. This is hotly refuted by Israeli security officials. Klingberg's champions also overlook the fact that a newly revised Russian successor is today being created.

"With peace nobody is going to attack Israel," retort the blinkered optimists. Like Shimon Peres, they seem to believe that the best defense against Syria is a line of hotels on the eastern shore of the Kinneret.

Before we buy this soothing opiate, we would do well to consider one harsh reality: the mindset of our neighbors. Let it be recalled that in 1988 thousands of Iraqi Kurds were slaughtered by Iraqi aerial gas attacks and shelling on their villages. Has Saddam's threat to "incinerate

half of Israel" been forgotten? Visitors to Peres's hotels and the good folk of Tel Aviv alike will be vulnerable.

Nor should it be forgotten that both Syria and Egypt today possess more biological and chemical weapons than ever before. The raw material and know-how needed to turn this material into weaponry has been supplied for a small extra fee by kindly European businessmen.

What do Syria or Egypt need these vast arsenals for? Neither country has any known enemies threatening them in the region. Yet Egypt's armed forces are the largest of any Arab nation in the Middle East. And it is equipped with state-of-the-art US weapons, including missiles and planes.

What has this to do the frail 77-year-old Klingberg?

Klingberg is still in possession of the knowledge he acquired while working at Ness Ziona. If he is released he will certainly depart our shores. No doubt his former masters at the Kremlin, who still pull the strings of power, will send their lackeys over to have a chat with him, wherever he is. And what Klingberg says...will be of immense use if the new Russia changes its policy and becomes an Arab ally once more.

Every Arab intelligence service will come politely knocking at Klingberg's door. Will this "idealist" who spied against the Jews be able to resist the temptation to impart a few more tidbits of knowledge about Israel's capability in the biological field - especially if his visitors bear suitcases brimming with dollars or Swiss francs, or gold bars, today on the rise in world markets?

There is a facile argument that says if Klingberg isn't freed, Israel has no right to ask the US to release Jonathan Pollard.

Klingberg spied for a major enemy of Israel and Jews everywhere. Pollard was a Jew who spied for a friendly US ally. He did it to warn Israel of the danger of biological and chemical preparations by Iraq, Egypt, Libya and Syria. He passed on information the US had withheld from Jerusalem, despite its obligation to share it by mutual agreement.

None are so blind as those who will not see. To those who refuse to see the difference between Pollard and Klingberg we would like to suggest a holiday in a Sea of Galilee Peres hotel, should the prime minister get his way and hand back the entire Golan Heights to Syria.

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.

That hurt!

LARRY DERFNER

During army reserve duty a few years back, this one Israeli soldier was making fun of the Ethiopian immigrants in the unit something fierce. Imitating their high-pitched voices, their broken Hebrew, making cracks about Africa: Everyone was laughing.

The Ethiopians were laughing too, trying to show that they could take it and doing their best to give it back to the guy, but coming out on the short end every time.

Then the Israeli asked one of the Ethiopians where he lived. "In Lod," the immigrant said.

"What street?"

"King David Street."

"Oh right. I saw some guy visiting your wife there the other day, so that must have been your house."

More laughter. The Ethiopian was now standing there with what's known as a "shit-eating grin" on his face.

Later on there was a lottery to see who would have to stay the night on guard duty. The four or five Ethiopians turned out to be among the lucky ones who would be going home.

But there was a glitch in the drawing, an honest mistake, and the lottery would have to be done over.

The Ethiopians were furious. They were certain they were being duped, and no one could convince them otherwise. Everyone drew lots again, and this time a few of the Ethiopians lost. They were now beyond furious, and each of them insisted on going home.

The Israeli with the rotten sense of humor had been among the lottery winners, but now he was volunteering to guard for the night. He went up to soldier after soldier, looking for two or three more to do the same.

He was turning the unit upside down, importuning Israeli soldiers to spend the night on the base instead of with their families.

Our treatment of the Ethiopians proves the oldest cliché about the Israeli personality

so the Ethiopians wouldn't feel cheated and become bitter.

I don't remember if he got enough volunteers. But I do remember that he gave his list to the Ethiopian from Lod. And I remember that before starting his guard duty, the Israeli-born soldier drove the Ethiopian immigrant home to his wife and children.

IS THIS a story about guilt? About patronization? More than anything, I think it is a story about duality, about the double-edged treatment Israel has shown the Ethiopians ever since they got here.

Like many other Israelis, I've been in a quandary since the Ethiopian riot outside the Prime Minister's Office. Are they right? Are we really a racist society? Have we abused these people so badly?

It can't be. This country has invested something like four times more money on each Ethiopian immigrant than on any other.

They've gotten apartments almost for free. They've gotten education subsidies and job training and counseling far beyond what is given other newcomers.

It may be that no country has ever done as much for any group of immigrants as Israel has done for the Ethiopians.

But I've heard the jokes, heard the laughter, seen the way they are belittled.

"Hey, kushi is really not that funny an expression, but a lot of Israelis seem to think it is. And when Israeli children use it on Ethiopian children, it loses all humor."

Kushi masriah means "stinking oigger" - that's the way it is spoken, and that's the way it is heard.

When you read about Israeli soccer fans making monkey sounds as soon as an African player gets the ball, you begin to get an idea of what Ethiopian immigrants have been putting up with.

Is this a contradiction - tremendous care and widespread abuse? No. This is us.

In our treatment of the Ethiopians, we have proven the oldest cliché about the Israeli personality. We are the sabra - sweet on the inside, prickly on the outside. Good heart, good intentions, astonishingly insensitive.

And no matter how sweet we really may be, when we prick someone, it hurts.

The writer is a freelancer living in Tel Aviv.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BELOW THE BELT

Sir, - I am sure that many of your readers would dearly love to know the identity of the "one Meretz MK" who took the all-time prize for offensive and irrelevant claptrap in the name of political comment in Sarah Honig's article, "Shula hlew it, and she did it her way" (January 26).

One is also curious to know what cause The Jerusalem Post thinks justifies the publication of copy on Minister Shulamit Aloni, such as, "She was a young cheeky dish, very easy on the eye. But the Aloni who appeared on TV to announce her decision to in effect leave Meretz, was an old woman despite her best make-up efforts. It almost hurt to look." If indeed, someone in government had the gall to talk in these terms about a contemporary, what is your paper doing passing on garbage below the level of any self-respecting gossip columnist in the guise of a political article?

Having admitted, Ms. Honig, that your anonymous Meretz MK was "unkind" and spoke in "politically incorrect and unbecoming sexist terms," don't you think that quoting him or her without divulging his or her identity in order to make a political point was a contradictory as it was distasteful? And you do use this mindless drivel by an unpublished

source to make political capital; "Such words from within Meretz highlight Aloni's downfall, perhaps her personal tragedy."

If truth be beauty, then in this reader's eyes, Shulamit Aloni continues to outshine her detractors, and she most certainly could never be accused of lacking in honesty, which is more than what is reflected in this article about her.

SIDNEY ROSENBERG Kfar Vradim.

ELIYA

Sir, - Whilst appreciating the publication of an article of January 16 on Eliya, presenting an accurate and positive representation of our teaching methods and philosophy, it is to be regretted that a number of factual errors were made in the article.

1. Eliya offers programs for children aged six months to five years, not from age three.

2. Most of Eliya's programs are six days a week, not one day a week.

3. Most of Eliya's programs are for the children alone, not for mother and child.

4. The catchment area is from Gadera in the south to Netanya in the north, not as confusingly indicated.

MICHAEL SEGAL, Chairman, Eliya Petah Tikva.

CAR THEFTS

Sir, - We are a company with a fleet of over 70 vehicles. We have had several of our cars stolen over the past years, even though they are equipped with the best and latest types of safeguards. We find that by obeying the following rules, we can reduce the number drastically.

1) In parking lots, pull in at the end of a row when possible. That way at least, one side of your car is visible. Avoid parking in the center of the row. A thief can crouch down between cars and never be seen.

2) Back your car into parking-lot spots. The front of your car will be easier to see and if a thief does get inside, other drivers will clearly see if he's tampering with the car.

3) Always park in well-lighted areas at night. Light is a powerful deterrent to theft.

4) Whenever possible, park your car so it is pointing towards a light source; if you don't, the light will cast a shadow along one side of the car, allowing a thief to hide while he works on getting into your vehicle.

5) Try to park in busy, well traveled areas, where a lot of people and cars go by. Parking in front of occupied buildings is ideal. If a thief does anything that is suspicious, there is a greater chance someone will see him.

MIKE GAL Tel Aviv.

POSTSCRIPT

A BEGGAR has been arrested outside a Sandi mosque with more than 400,000 riyals (\$106,000) in his possession, the Arab News daily reported this week.

The English-language newspaper said that the beggar's "suspicious behavior" attracted the attention of a man who had come to pray at the mosque in Hufuf, 300 kilometers northeast of the capital, Riyadh.

An argument began between the two, and the beggar tried to get away. As he ran, however, a bundle containing some 370,000 riyals (\$100,000) in banknotes fell out of his pocket, the paper said.

The police intervened and arrested the beggar. During a search of his person more money was found in his pockets, the daily said.

The names of the beggar and the man who chased him were not disclosed. The paper also did not say when the incident occurred.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



The goal of this game is to clobber the photographer. The schoolyard match took place in Havat Hanoar, Jerusalem, in the '50s. (Werner Braun)

Handwritten signature or scribble at the bottom of the page.

THE JERUSALEM
POST

TRAVELER

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1996

IN THE LAND OF OZ

Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

by Mary Gillespie

MELBOURNE, Australia—I was in the ladies' room at Flemington Racecourse when the epiphany hit. Having taken secret glee in watching the water swirl backward down the drain (as it does in that other hemisphere), I glanced nonchalantly in the mirror to adjust my hair—a required accompaniment at Australia's hottest sporting event, the Melbourne Cup. Jockeying for airspace to check her own champagne, the lady next to me jostled my elbow.

"Sorry," she sighed conspiratorially. "No worries." I replied, my long "O" and rough Chicago "Y's" buffed to a soft Aussie-like lilt. It was as if I'd been saying it all my life.

The light bulb flashed: I'd been in Australia for a week and I was trying to go native. Buying into it big time. So comfort-

able I was starting to nurse fantasies of sending for my things and settling in the Land of Oz.

Now, I do tend to pick up local inflections wherever I go. In Scotland, my r's start to roll; in Baton Rouge, Fla., they blur. And I have been accused of falling easily in love with the exotic.

But this was different. This was the infatuation friends had warned me about. This country—this incredibly diverse continent that's the same size as the United States but supports only 17 million people—is, for North Americans like me, the perfect blend of exotic and comfort. It may be geographically allied with Asia, but its sensibilities are those of the British and Irish ne'er-do-wells who settled it when they were dispatched here to pay for their crimes.

Australia is about as far away as you can get—it takes 14 hours to fly nonstop to Sydney from Los Angeles, Ca.—yet the place, the people and the language feel familiar. The backward seasons are disorienting only in the nicest of ways.

The cities are at once unique and reassuringly recognizable.



Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

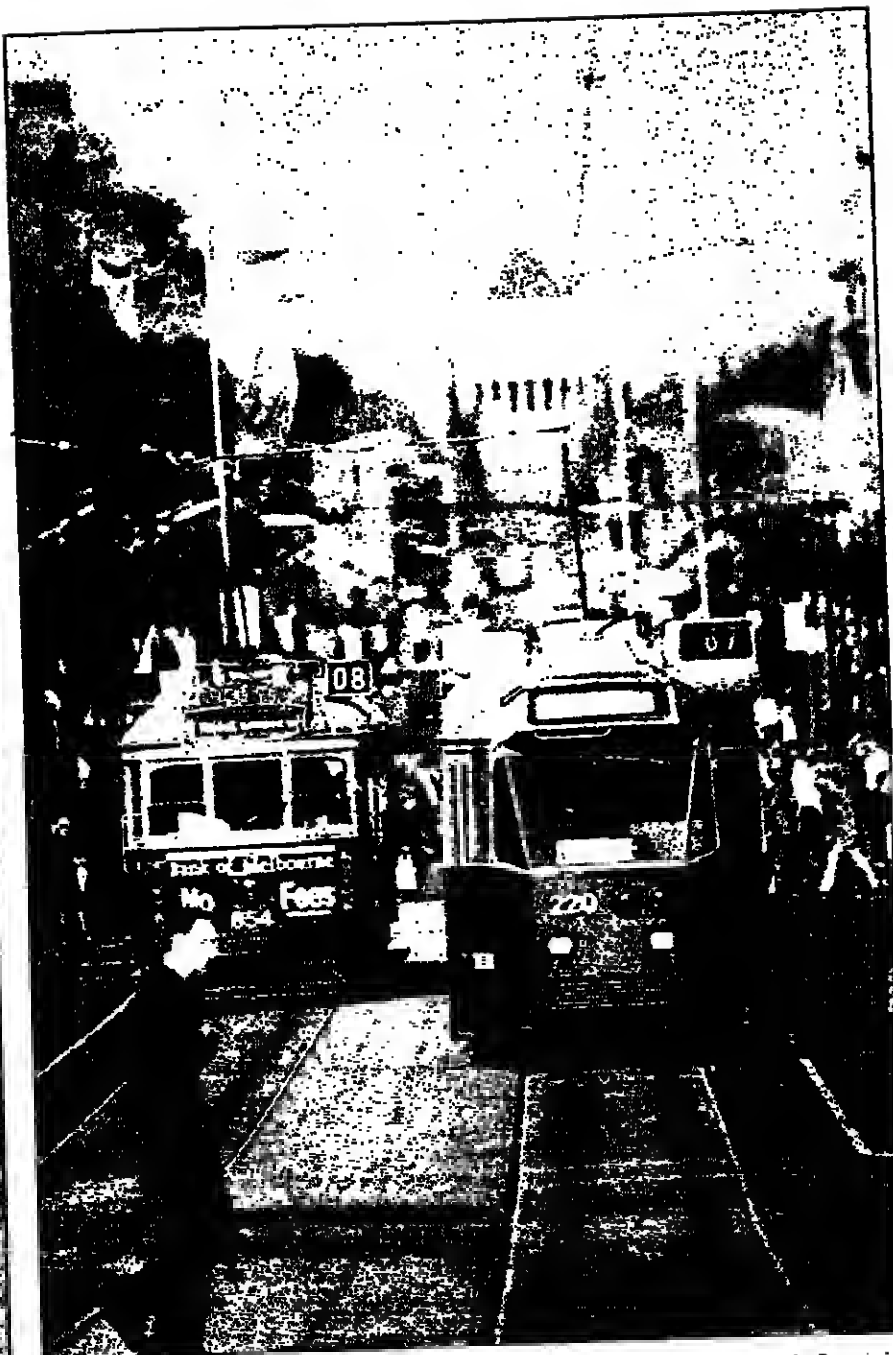


Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

There's plenty of shopping and glitzy nightlife for those who need it, but you're never far from water, wilderness and wildlife.

Aussies even spend dollars—only these days, American spenders visiting Oz are enjoying an exchange rate of about \$1.30 Australian.

Of course, there's Australia—or Aus-try-ia, as we naives say—and there's Australia. Trying to "do" the continent in a couple of weeks is like trying to hit New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and everything in between in a fortnight. On my two-week stay, I covered Sydney, Melbourne and Tasmania—and still missed a lot. Smart travelers fight the "we flew all this way, we have to see it all" syndrome and choose a few stops to explore at leisure.

Australia is separated into just eight states and territories—one of which is the island of Tasmania—with a vast expanse of virtually uninhabitable desert outback in the center. Most of its cities cling to the coasts, and about half its population is clustered in and around Sydney and Melbourne, two world-class metropolises that suffer from serious sibling rivalry.

Like me, everybody sees Sydney first, simply because that's where the international planes land. It's the global port of entry to the smallest of the seven continents: a bustling cosmopolitan mecca of 4 million that, though it has many fetching features, could be almost anywhere. It takes 90 minutes just to drive out of town, and many business travelers and quick-trippers never get the chance to see anything but all-too-familiar suburban sprawl.

Not that there isn't plenty to do in Sydney. I played straight tourist to the "pirates" on the

Continued on page 2

Above: Aussies love and respect the water that surrounds this coastal city of Melbourne. Most of Australia's 17 million people live in a coastal city.

Far Left: Hats are a hallmark of the Melbourne Cup. They are as much part of the fun as having a holiday for a three-minute horse race.

Left: Known for its art and architecture, Melbourne is the kind of town that still uses its trolleys as transportation.



A koala snacks on eucalyptus leaves in Featherdale Wildlife Park, a Sanctuary near Sydney.

Photo by Stanton H. Patty

On The Rocks in

by Stanton H. Patty

SYDNEY, Australia—They serve history "on the Rocks" here. Mighty smooth. The Rocks is the lively neighborhood in the heart of downtown Sydney where Australia was born.

It was here in Sydney Cove, on a January evening in 1788, that a fleet of convict ships from England delivered a cargo of human misery.

Aboard were 757 prisoners—ordered "transported for life" to a far-away penal colony that would be called Australia.

Before darkness, the convicts were clearing ground for shelters on the sandstone bluffs that gave The Rocks their name.

A redevelopment panel formed by the New South Wales state government in 1970 proposed that The Rocks be razed for high rises.

Logs of the 11 ships carefully listed the rest of the contingent: a military escort of 200 guards, plus 28 women, 14 children, 4 cattle, 6 horses, 44 sheep plus sundry fowl and pigs.

And thus a nation was founded. Today, many of Australia's famous families trace their beginnings to that grim event.

"And with a great deal of pride," says Joanna McDonald, a Rocks walking-tour guide.

When King George III lost the war to the "colonies," England had to find a new dumping ground for criminals and political agitators. Australia—15,000 sea miles and eight months by sail from Britain—was the choice.

Another slice of irony: Capt. William Bligh, who lost the Bounty to a band of mutineers, was one of the early governors of the new colony.

Bligh's run of bad luck followed him to The Rocks in 1805. Run-swilling soldiers defied his strong-discipline methods and got him fired.

"Actually, Captain Bligh was a much-maligned person," McDonald says. "He's very much a part of our history."

Now, bared by Bligh's scowling statue on the green by Sydney Cove, tourists board a full-scale replica of the Bounty for cruises around one of the world's most beautiful harbors.

The fare is \$20 (Australian) a pop, mate. Maybe Bill Bligh should have considered a career as a sightseeing skipper.

Today's Rocks district is a place for strolling, with a charming mix of galleries, craft centers, restaurants and pubs along tangles of meandering streets decked with dozens of original buildings.

Visitors have no trouble getting their bearings. The Rocks are squeezed between two of the city's best-known landmarks—the Sydney Opera House, with its dramatic roof line of ceramic sails, and the 440-foot-high sweep of the Harbour Bridge.

Every Saturday and Sunday (from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) the area turns into The Rocks Market, with more than 100 vendors offering items from antiques to kitchen gadgets.

And in the evening The Market rocks to the beat of Freshly Squeezed Fanatics, Home Rule, the Murrumbidgee Rattlers and other groups.

This is where Sydney's heart beats fastest.

"But we almost lost it all," says Joanna McDonald. What happened was that as Sydney boomed, The Rocks fell into decay. By the 1960s, the historic district was a seedy and rowdy slum area with few permanent residents.

A redevelopment panel formed by the New South Wales state government in 1970 proposed that The Rocks be razed for high rises.

Sydney folk would be eager, proponents said, to replace an ugly collection of worn-out buildings with skyscrapers by the water's edge.

Wrong. "No—you can't do this!" howled history-minded citizens.

Sympathetic members of the Building Workers Union called a strike to prevent any new construction in The Rocks. The bureaucrats went back to their drawing boards.

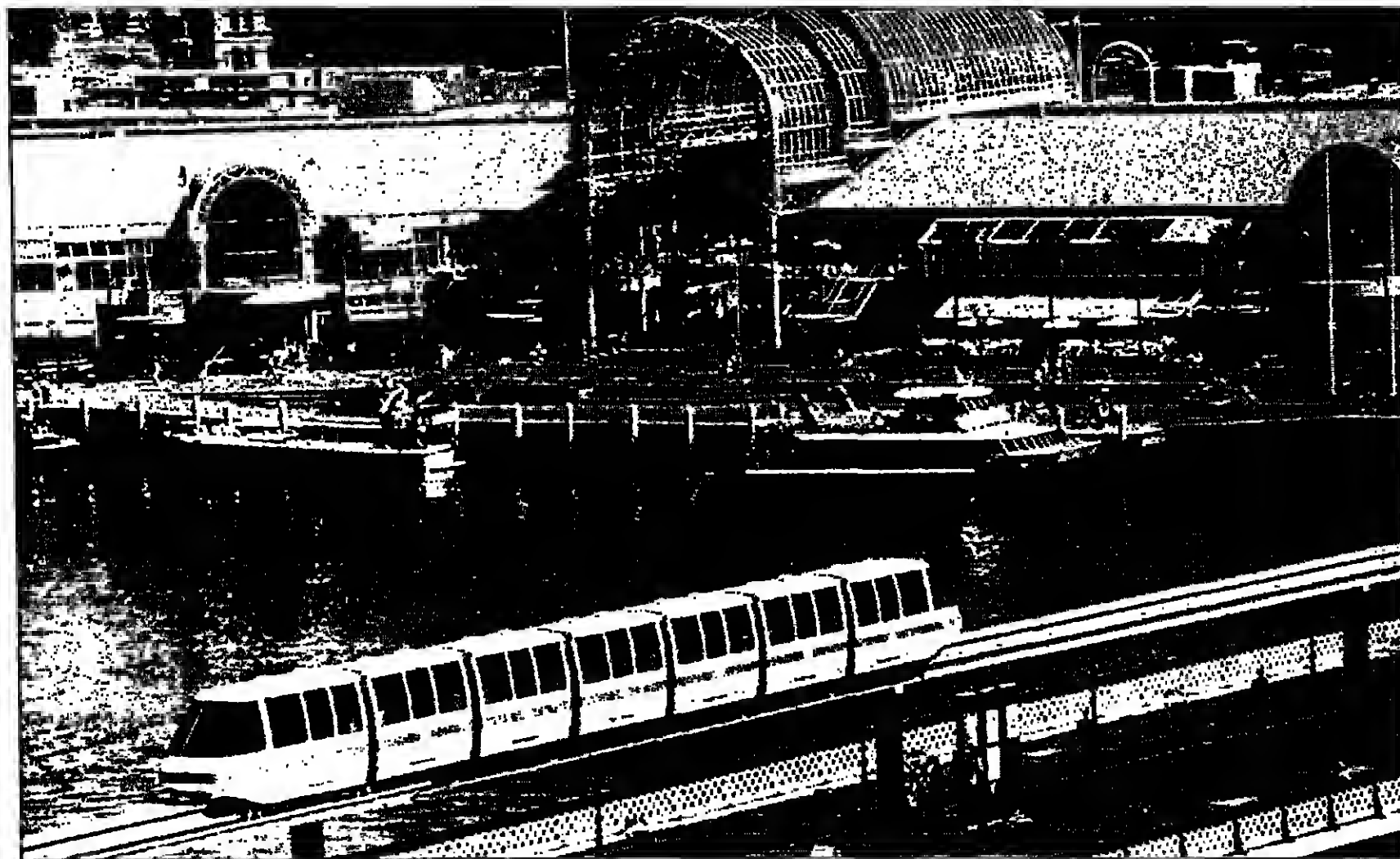
A new plan evolved, a restoration project designed by the Sydney Cove Authority that was to turn The Rocks into an appealing place to work and play.

Historic warehouses and cottages became specialty stores and restaurants. Cells in the old Rocks police station were converted to craft shops. Secluded courtyards became settings for tea time. And some of the dingy row houses—once occupied by laborers' families—now are cozy homes for longtime residents of The Rocks.

Leases from buildings and land controlled by the authority provide enough income to keep The Rocks from being a burden on taxpayers.

"It hasn't been easy," McDonald says. "There has been heartache, even hatred, along the way. But now things are blossoming, and we are very, very grateful."

There are new high rises, too, but only as a backdrop on the uphill edge of The Rocks. The lofty additions



Darling Harbour in Sydney was given a multimillion-dollar facelift in recent years.

Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

Land of Oz From page 1

Bounty, the gorgeous sailing ship built for Mel Gibson's "Mutiny on the Bounty," which now offers lunch and dinner cruises—accompanied by actors' salty banter—around Sydney's beautiful central harbor.

I scopped famous Bondi Beach. I gawked at the gorgeous seaward views. I inhaled in the fragrance of eucalyptus and marveled at the figs, palms and other tropical foliage that flourishes everywhere. I jogged with a friend at daybreak through King's Cross, the city's red-light district, using the prone bodies of a few smacked-out locals as convenient hurdles. I checked out Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman's manse, drove through the tragically hip Darlinghurst section and toured the city's most instantly recognizable feature—the almost absurdly dramatic Sydney Opera House—which resembles, depending on whom you listen to, a set of sails, an alien craft or a peeled orange.

I was awestruck by the hypnotically intricate aboriginal bark paintings and other pieces in the Yiribana Gallery within the Art Gallery of New South Wales, the largest exhibit of its kind in the world.

And I ate great—even had breakfast with a wombat at the Taronga Zoo—and got a not-to-be-missed, 360-degree view of Sydney from the needle-nosed Sydney Tower. Mostly, I heard how sorry the New York-like Sydney-siders were that I was about to be forced to exit their glorious metropolis for Melbourne, a place they tend to disdain as staid, stagnant and, well... hopelessly British.

"When visitors come here, they say, 'It's very British, isn't it?'" explained a Melbourne friend who, naturally, had his own ideas about the character of Sydney and its denizens.

"When Brits come here, they say, 'It's very American, isn't it?'" Actually, Melbourne is just itself: a hip hybrid. It's a livable, culturally aware, sports-happy city of more than 3 mil-

lion. Known for its art and architecture, it's the kind of town that still uses its trolleys as transportation. The kind of place where, at noontime, you can see business suits barbecuing their lunches in the park on the banks of the Yarra River. It's a town that can support 34 live theater companies and the series of sophisticated, world-class venues that make up the Victorian Arts Center.

Melbourne, situated picturesquely on Port Phillip Bay, fancies itself the home of the Big Event. For me, it was

It's truly hard for foreigners—well, me, anyway—to grasp that these people actually declare a state holiday every year to celebrate a three-minute horse trot. And the hat thing... well, maybe you have to be descended from Brits to get it.

During my stay, I attended several performances—from a gloomy postmodern opera in a dockside warehouse to a Barbara Cook cabaret revue in the Arts Center's cushy seats—that were part of the Melbourne International Festival of the Arts, a genuine Big Event celebrating its 10th year. I wandered through the city's enormous new casino, which boasts more gaming tables than any in the world. I ate a multi-course meal aboard a moving trolley (now the pleasantly touristy Colonial Tramcar Restaurant).

And I shopped. I prowled bohemian Brunswick Street, upmarket Chapel Street and the immense, flea-market Victoria Market, where you can snag clothes, vegetables and

everything in between. ("In Melbourne," confided a newly made friend, "shopping is not a habit. It's a career.")

Then there was... The Cup.

It's truly hard for foreigners—well, me, anyway—to grasp that these people actually declare a state holiday every year to celebrate a three-minute horse trot. And the hat thing... well, maybe you have to be descended from Brits to get it.

Nevertheless, catching Cup fever is tremendous fun, requiring as it does champagne for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Although it's a megabucks proposition for many, bets can be placed for as little as 50 cents Australian. And while society types parade their headgear in the members' boxes, the real people clink Fosters bottles on the lawn, parading their own, often inspired, parodies. (Amazingly, this race is just the center-piece in a series known as the Spring Racing Carnival.)

Cup hysteria—the very concept of it—is just one of the things that makes Melbourne, and Australia in general,

worth the trip. The best reason to go is the people. Maybe it's their temperate climate, or their nothing-to-lose ancestors, or the fact there's just more room to breathe there. Whatever, Aussies are friendly humans, and they've created a welcoming culture.

Gazing into the sky late one night just before coming home, there came another little epiphany: The stars were in new places. To my North American eyes, they were deliciously mixed up, randomly tossed sparkles on black velvet.

I made a wish. If it comes true, Oz, I'll be back.

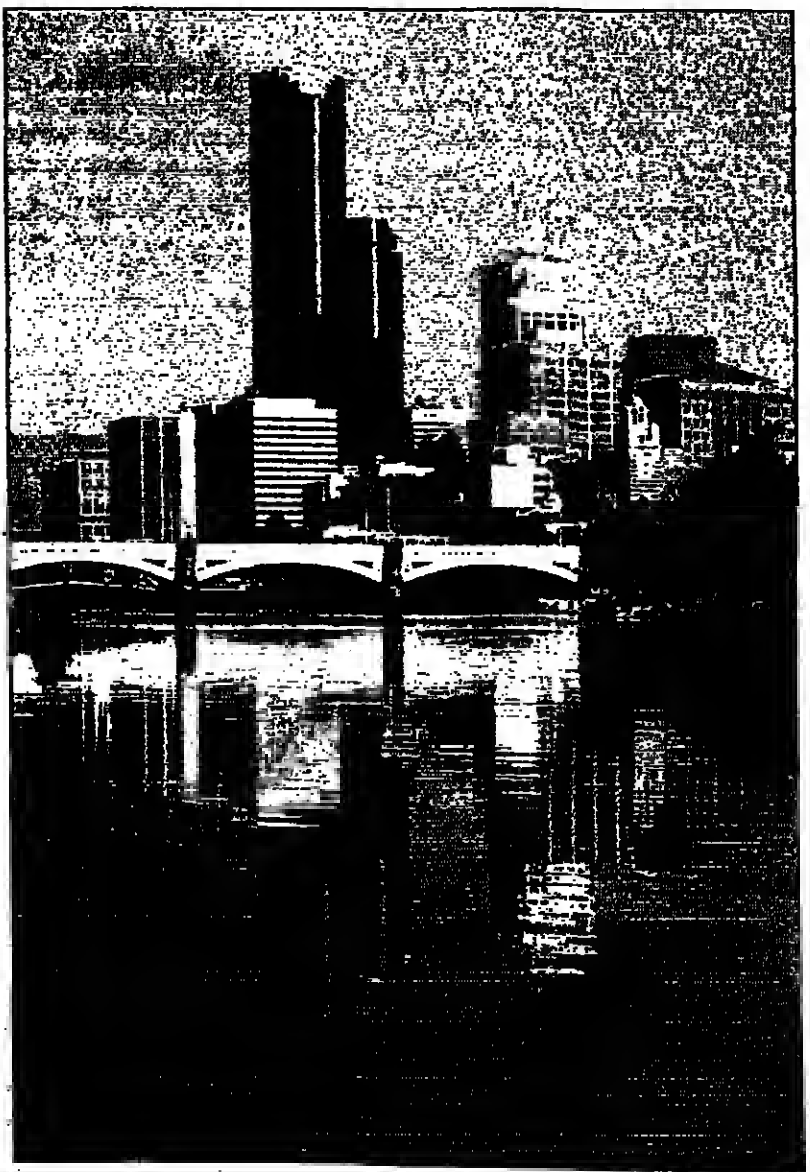
Freelancer Mary Gillespie's trip was hosted by the Australian Tourist Commission.

Talking About Down Under

The language they speak in Oz isn't English, exactly. It's... Australian. Or Aussie—pronounced with z's, not s's—as those nickname-happy denizens of Down Under would say.

Here's a short language survival guide:

- Ocker = Australian
- kanga = money
- big mickles = big money
- shrapnel = small change
- done like a dinner = tired, drunk or both
- have a bleee = have an argument, usually with a mate (friend)
- broily = umbrella
- stone the crows! = darn it!
- (faster than) a rat up a drainpipe = in a hurry
- come the raw prawn = yeah, right
- (he) couldn't rip the skin off a rice pudding = wimp
- dunny = outside toilet
- (I have a) mouth like a cocky's cage = hangover
- ta = thanks
- no worries = you're welcome, it's OK
- she'll be right = it's OK
- g'day (pronounced g'dio) = hi, goodbye
- fair dinkum = genuine, true



The Yarra River, which flows through Melbourne, is used for various recreational activities.

Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission

July 16 1996

Australia

include two of the city's luxury hotels, the ANA Hotel Sydney and the Regent of Sydney.

The 573-room ANA (financed with Japanese capital) is the most expensive hotel built in Australia. The cost was \$932,000 per room!

Commuter trains run under the hotel, but on rubber

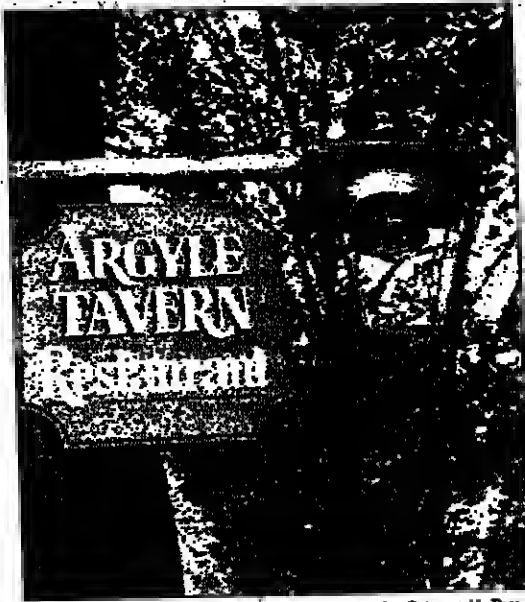


Photo by Stanton H. Patey

Argyle Street is in the heart of the historical district known as The Rocks.

cushions so soft that the ballroom's \$1.8 million Venetian-glass chandelier doesn't even wobble.

It wasn't far from where the fancy hotels stand that the early colony's gallows did their terrible work.

One record of the time noted that there were facilities "from which seven can be turned off at one time—six comfortably."

But most of the convicts transported to Australia were petty criminals. And many had skills that helped forge the new nation-in-waiting.

One of the talented prisoners was Francis Greenway, who designed some of Australia's most beautiful buildings—including St. James Church, still a Sydney gem. Greenway was sent here for forgery. Now his face is on Australia's \$10 bill.

Then there was Mary Reiby, accused of stealing a horse back in England at age 13. She became a prominent business woman here and won acclaim for her work in the causes of charity and education.

And how about Capt. John Pifer? He was posted to Sydney to collect customs duties. Pifer also collected for himself, doing so well that soon he had a string of race horses and more than 100 servants.

Charged with corrupt practices, the disgraced officer tried to drown himself in the Sydney harbor as his piper played a lament. He didn't try hard enough, so retired to his estate, damp and in disgrace.

Such was life in The Rocks.

There's still a lot of life here, thanks to a city that cares about history.

Travelers can ramble through The Rocks on their own by calling at The Rocks Visitors Centre (199 George Street) and buying a self-guiding map for 50 cents.

Or join Joanna McDonald, owner of The Rocks Walking Tours (39 Argyle Street), for a rollicking tour of the historic district. \$12.

"I tell people that I've been walking the streets here for 16 years," McDonald says with a laugh. "That does get a rise at dinner parties when people ask what I do for a living."

Additional information: Australian Tourist Commission, 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1200, Los Angeles, California 90067, phone (001) 310/552-1988; New South Wales Tourism Commission, 2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1230, Los Angeles, California 90067, phone (001) 310/552-9566. To obtain a free "Destination Australia" guide, phone the Australian Tourist Commission at (001) 708/296-4900.

Stanton H. Patey, a Vancouver, Washington, writer, is the retired assistant travel editor of *The Seattle Times*.



Photo courtesy of the Australian Tourist Commission.

The wombat is among Australia's many marsupials.

On The Wildside

To us, kangaroos, wallabies and wombats are exotic creatures seen only in encyclopedias and zoos.

To Aussies, they're roadkill.

Kangas are so numerous, in fact, that they are legally culled by hunters and end up filleted under sauce. So many wombats, wallabies and other local fauna fail to make it across the road that the government sponsors shelters to raise their

orphaned progeny. (At some, thrilled tourists are allowed to touch and feed them.)

Though it's easy to glimpse Aussie wildlife from a car window, zoos and shelters often let visitors go one-on-one with the results of the continent's geographic isolation-evolutionary oddities such as the flightless emu, a gawky bird that can reach six feet in height, and all those quirky marsupials that bundle their babies around in pouch-

es. Not as cute but even more intriguing are the world's only surviving egg-laying mammals, the goofy-looking platypus and the porcupine-like echidna.

Tied with the kangaroo for most famous Aussie animal is the sleepy, eucalyptus-munching koala. If you find yourself within touching distance of one, just remember: They're not as cuddly-sweet as they look.

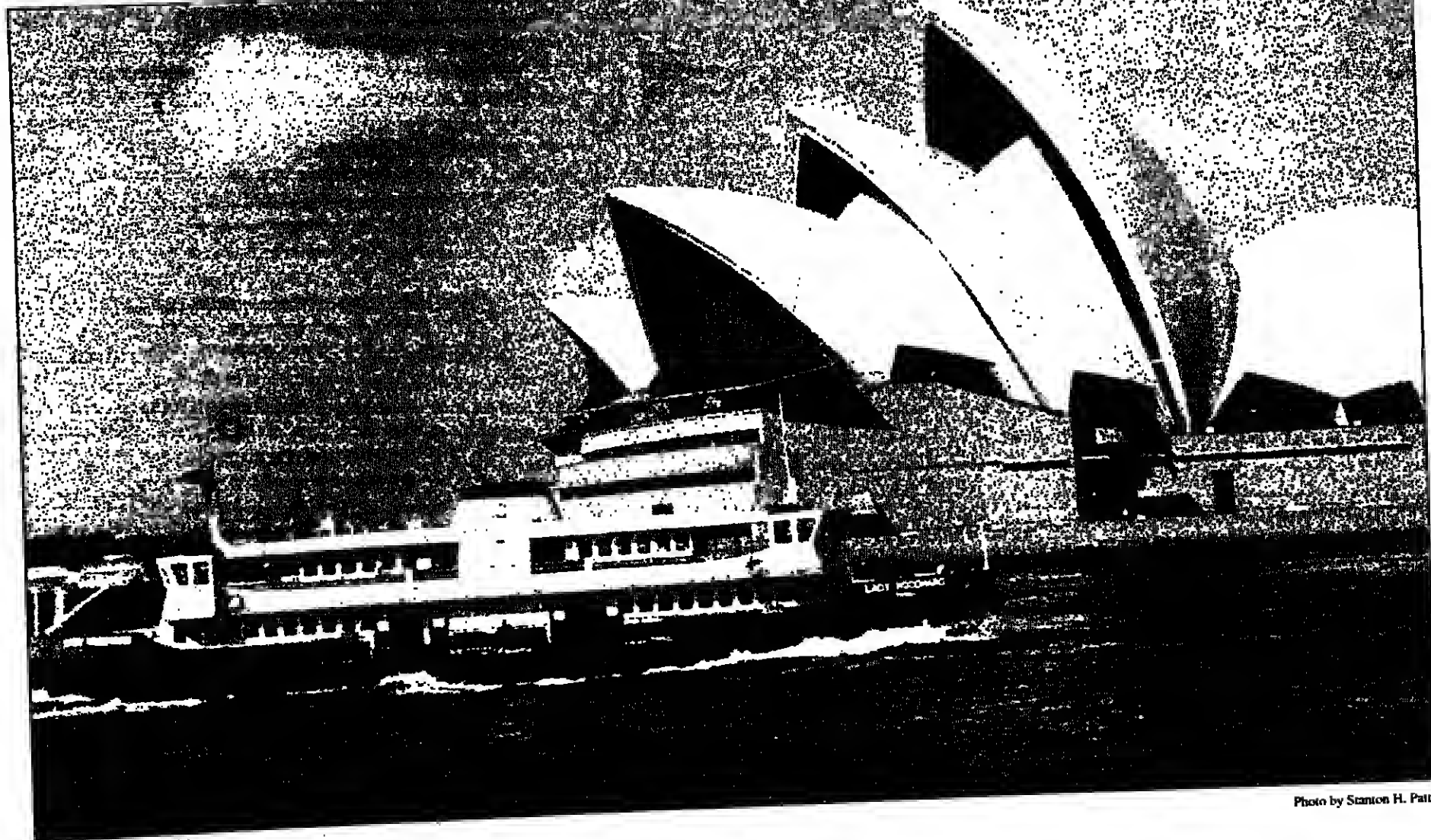


Photo by Stanton H. Patey

A ferry cruises by the Sydney Opera House, the Australian city's best-known landmark.

HEADING DOWN UNDER?

GETTING THERE:

Sydney, Melbourne and surrounding areas offer levels of accommodations for all tastes and budgets, from the glamorous to the funky. For advice on planning all the details of a Down Under vacation, call the Australian Tourist Commission's Aussie Help line at (001) 708/296-4900.

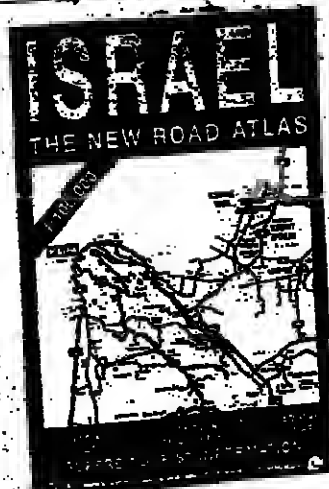
WHAT TO PACK:

In our winter-then summer light layers will do. But always carry a wind-cheater (sweat shirt or sweater) and a broolly (umbrella), as the weather is quick to change. Bring a hat and sunscreen—the sun is punishing—and, of course, comfortable bush walking shoes. Money is easy to change at banks, hotels and airports: if you bring traveler's checks, make sure they're in Australian currency, especially if you plan to use them in less-traveled areas. And don't forget, you need a visa to enter Australia.

HOW TO SURVIVE:

On the plane, don't forget to move around as much as possible. Eat light and healthy, drink more water than alcohol and bring a facial spritzer to keep your skin from drying out. A neck pillow is a must. If you lose your shoes en route, put them back on two hours before landing—or you might not get them back on at all. Set your watch to Sydney time right after takeoff to give your body clock time to adjust. Sleep as much as you can on the plane, then hold off hitting the sheets until the locals do. (Some sojourners swear melatonin pills, available at stateside drug and health-food stores, ease jet lag.)

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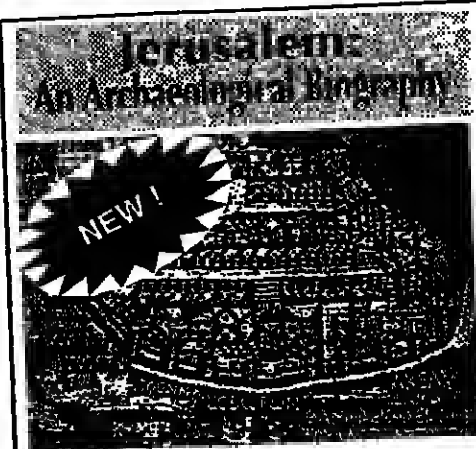
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Bulls stay derailed

PHOENIX (AP) - The Chicago Bulls are on a losing streak. And Charles Barkley and the Phoenix Suns are looking like an NBA power again.

Barkley scored 35 points and grabbed 16 rebounds as the Bulls handed the Bulls just their fifth loss of the season with a 106-96 victory Tuesday. It was the Bulls' second second defeat in three nights.

Elliot Perry broke a 96-96 tie with two free throws and a jumper. Barkley hoisted Perry over his shoulder and carried him to the bench as Chicago called timeout.

Then Barkley stole the inbounds pass for his breakthrough dunk, and the celebrating began.

Michael Jordan scored 12 of his 28 points in the final six minutes of the fourth quarter, helping the Bulls come from as many as nine points behind to tie it at 93 and 96.

Magic 112, Kings 102.

The Orlando Magic moved a game closer to the NBA record for home wins at the start of a season.

Anternee Hardaway scored 24 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 22 as the Atlantic Division leaders improved to 25-0 at Orlando Arena and extended their NBA-high, home winning streak to 32 regular-season games dating back to last spring.

The record for home victories at the start of a season is 27, set by Washington in 1946-47.

Lakers 99, Nuggets 78.

Magic Johnson scored 16 points, dished out 12 assists and narrowly missed a triple-double with nine rebounds.

Johnson, in his fourth game since ending his retirement last week, played 33 minutes and showed flashes of his old self, particularly in the final quarter.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS:

Cleveland 91, Boston 73

San Antonio 109, Charlotte 102

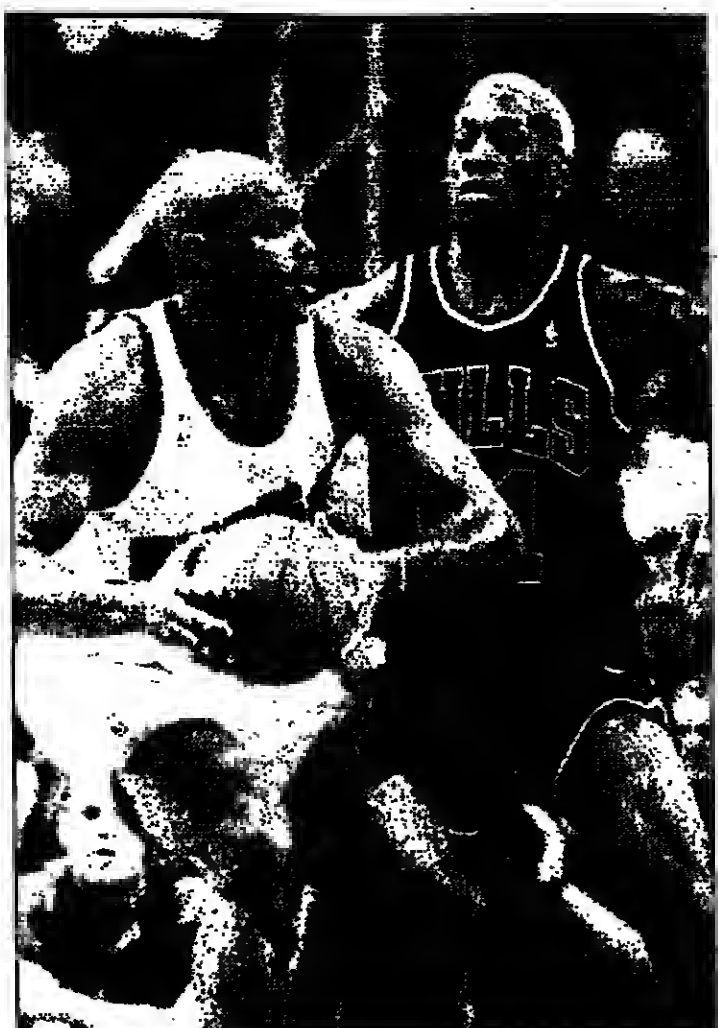
Orlando 112, Sacramento 102

Phoenix 106, Chicago 96

Memphis 114, Dallas 111

L.A. Lakers 99, Denver 78

Seattle 99, Houston 94



BULL FIGHTER - Phoenix's Charles Barkley goes up against Chicago's Dennis Rodman.

EASTERN CONFERENCE			WESTERN CONFERENCE		
Atlantic Division			Midwest Division		
Orlando	34	13	San Antonio	30	14
New York	29	16	Utah	31	15
Washington	22	22	Houston	30	18
Miami	21	26	Denver	18	27
New Jersey	18	27	Dallas	15	30
Boston	17	29	Minnesota	13	31
Philadelphia	9	36	Vancouver	10	38
Central Division			Pacific Division		
Chicago	41	5	Seattle	34	12
Indiana	31	15	L.A. Lakers	27	19
Cleveland	28	20	Sacramento	24	19
Atlanta	25	20	Portland	23	24
Detroit	22	22	Phoenix	21	24
Charlotte	21	23	Golden State	21	25
Milwaukee	17	27	L.A. Clippers	18	30
Toronto	13	33			

Maccabi in desperate need of another miracle

BRIAN FREEMAN

WHEN Doron Janichev sank a last-second, 20-meter shot to give Maccabi Tel Aviv a dramatic 78-75 win over Cibona Zagreb last December at Yad Eliahu, it seemed destiny was ready to push the Israelis into the quarter-finals of the European Club Championships.

But instead of inspiring Maccabi to great heights, that victory - which boosted Tel Aviv's record to 4-2 and sole possession of second place in Group B - has been the team's last hurrah.

Since then, Maccabi has lost five of six European games, with its only victory coming over last-place Benfica Lisbon.

Fortune, however, has kept Tel Aviv's hopes alive for a quarter-final berth (see box), despite the lackluster play that has seen Maccabi lose two straight European home games.

So a victory tonight in Zagreb over Cibona, 6-6, would be much more than a morale booster. It could keep Maccabi in the race heading into the final pool's last contest next week at home against Panathinaikos.

Cibona, however, is also in the midst of the race and is not eager

to repeat its only loss this season on its home court - 93-82 last month to Panathinaikos.

Zagreb is centered around the same young core that made the quarter-finals last season before losing to eventual European champions Real Madrid.

It is led by 24-year-old forward Veljko Mircic, who missed the first two games of the championships recovering from knee surgery. He has since averaged a team-best 16.4 points a contest, including 41.7 percent (13-36) from three-point range.

He is one of three Cibona regulars with a three-point accuracy rate above 40%. The team loves to launch the ball from behind the arc, putting up 24 three-pointers a game, compared to only 11 for its opponents. And the overall team success rate is an impressive 39.6% (112-283).

Leading the bomb squad in percentage is 28-year-old guard Vladan Alanovic, who scores most of his 9.8 points a contest on three-pointers (20-45, 44.4%).

His backcourt mate, 21-year-old Damir Mulaomerovic, averages

12.0 points a game, helped by a team-leading 62 attempts from behind the arc and a 41.9% success rate (22-62).

Small forward Davor Marcelic, 26, also loves to heave the long-range shot, but he is only connecting on 35.4% (17-48) of the shots. However, he is 6-8 (75%) in his last two games.

One of Cibona's main problems is that when the shots miss, they have trouble grabbing the rebounds. In fact, Cibona has out-rebounded only one opponent in the past 10 games and is suffering from a 301-266 disadvantage on the boards for the season.

Despite the chance that remains for Maccabi to advance in Europe, the team talks about concentrating on the State Cup and league.

However, even that is giving the team problems, as Maccabi narrowly avoided an upset against last-place Hapoel Gvat in league play on Sunday.

Yarom Harush has been hired as assistant coach to help Zvi Sherf turn the team around before it repeats the disastrous 1992-93 season, when Maccabi finished last in its European final pool and lost both the league and State Cup.

Maccabi holds a 7-4 all-time record against Cibona, including 1-2 at Zagreb. Maccabi is 7-8 overall in the former Yugoslavia.

Tip off is scheduled for 9 pm and will be shown live on Channel 1.

Magic formula

DESPITE a writing off of Maccabi's chances to advance to the quarter-finals by most of the press as "minute" or "theoretical," the actual situation is not as dire.

This is what needs to happen for Maccabi to advance:

- It must win its remaining two games (next week is a home contest against Panathinaikos).
- Buckler Bologna must lose its last two games, which is not such a long-shot since it plays at Panathinaikos today and hosts Real Madrid next week.
- Pau-Orthez, which beat Barcelona 82-70 last night at home, must lose next week against Cibona.

Assuming Maccabi beats Cibona Zagreb tonight, Maccabi would hold the tie-breaker advantage over the Croatians since it would have defeated them twice.

If Maccabi ends the final pool with the same record as any of the other contenders, the Israelis would lose out.

However, if Maccabi is tied with both Cibona and Pau-Orthez, Maccabi would advance since it would have a better record in the games played among the tied teams (3-1) than either Orthez (2-2) or Cibona (1-3).

To do other three-way or four-way tie would Maccabi come out of the club that advances. B.F.

European Club Championships

Group A			Group B		
W	L	Pts	W	L	Pts
Olympiacos	8	3	22		
CSKA Moscow	8	3	21		
Banquet Treviso	8	4	20		
Ukrainian	8	5	18		
Antibes	8	6	17		
Melgou	5	7	17		
Iradia Salonika	4	8	17		
Bayer Leverkusen	4	8	18		
Group B			Group C		
W	L	Pts	W	L	Pts
Barcelona	8	4	22		
Pau-Orthez	7	6	20		
Panathinaikos	7	7	18		
Real Madrid	7	8	18		
Cibona Zagreb	7	8	18		
Buckler Bologna	8	8	18		
Maccabi Tel Aviv	5	7	17		
Benfica Lisbon	2	10	14		

Israel-Norway Davis Cup draw today

ORI LEWIS

THE draw for the Davis Cup Euro/African Zone Group 1 tie between Israel and Norway takes place at Ramat Hasharon today.

While the draw will have little effect on the outcome of the encounter - with only the order of singles matches tomorrow and Sunday being determined - the weather may indeed have a considerable bearing on the tie.

Ramat Hasharon is the initial venue for the three-day event, although if rain should intervene, play may be moved to an indoor court in Ra'anana.

The facility has already been prepared, although the decision to move will be made by the ITF referee on site, Fabrice Srougeur of France.

Today's draw at noon will determine the order of play. With the latest Davis Cup format introduced three years ago, each No. 1 player is pitted against his opposite No. 2 tomorrow, with the No. 1 players and the No. 2 players meeting in the reverse singles on Sunday. The draw will only determine which match plays first on each day.

Tomorrow, therefore, Israel's No. 1 Eyal Ran will meet his No. 2 opponent Helge Koll, while Norway's top player, Christian Ruud will play Noam Behr. Israel will be looking to avenge its 4-1 defeat at the hands of the Norwegians in the same event last year.

If Israel wins the tie it will have to come to a meeting against Spain in April, while a loss would pit it against either Croatia or Ukraine away for the right to stay in Group 1.

Soccer clubs back expansion

GENEVA (AP) - Europe's most powerful soccer clubs yesterday backed UEFA's plans for major expansion of its club competitions while making no moves towards setting up their own super league.

In an unprecedented face-to-face meeting with the owners of 33 clubs, including AC Milan, Ajax of Amsterdam, Bayern Munich, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Manchester United, UEFA president Lennart Johansson suggested expanding the Champions League from 24 to 32 teams.

He also spoke of the most successful nations, such as Italy, getting two places in the Champions League instead of one. Losing teams in the preliminary round also could get a second chance of European glory by gaining places into that season's UEFA Cup.

The suggestions appeared to get widespread approval. Johansson said UEFA planned to brief clubs on some ideas it had for the future.

Sheffer scores 22 as UConn extends win-streak to 21

STORRS, Conn. (AP) - A balanced scoring attack and Austin Croshere's foul troubles helped Connecticut remain unbeaten in the Big East.

Doron Sheffer led UConn with 22 points and Ray Allen added 21 as the No. 4 Huskies beat Providence 99-76 Tuesday night, extending the Huskies' win streak to 21 games.

Kirk King added 20 points on 9-for-10 shooting for UConn (22-1, 12-0 Big East), which took advantage of the foul trouble of Croshere, Providence's leading scorer.

The Huskies also got good efforts by Eric Hayward and Rudy Johnson. Hayward muscled his way through the lanes for shots and rebounds and finished with 10 points, three shy of his career high. Johnson had two key steals.

"I think what we did do is play with good defensive pressure," said UConn coach Jim Calhoun. "Secondly, we got a very good offensive performance, more balanced without just relying on Ray's greatness at times."

Croshere, limited to four minutes and held scoreless before halftime, did his best to keep the Friars (12-8, 5-7) in the game, even after getting his fourth foul six minutes into the second half.

Croshere finished with 16 points, including four 3-pointers, before fouling out with 4:25 remaining and the Friars trailing 76-67.

"Austin Croshere getting in foul trouble certainly hurt us," said Providence coach Pete Gillen. "It didn't cost us the game obviously, but I think it would have been a more competitive game."

CONNECTICUT 99

PROVIDENCE 77

PROVIDENCE (12-8)

D. Brown 7-13 3-5 18, Croshere 6-13 0-0 16, Garcia 2-6 1-4 5, Shamgod 4-13 2-4 10, M. Brown 4-10 0-0 10, Thomas 3-12 1-2 10, Murdoch 1-2 0-0 2, Szybski 3-4 0-0 6, Acker 0-0 0-0 0, Cole 0-0 0-0 0.

Adams 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 30-73 7-15 77.

CONNECTICUT (22-1)

King 9-10 2-3 20, Johnson 3-8 1-2 7, Knight 4-8 0-1 8, Sheffer 5-9 10-22, Allen 8-14 3-21, Hayward 3-5 4-5 10, Moore 2-3 1-2 5, Jones 1-2 0-0 2, Klalber 0-0 0-0 0, Calisto 0-0 0-0 0, Chapman 2-2 0-0 0-0 0, Irvy 1-1 0-0 0 0, Totals 37-61 21-28 99.

Halftime - Connecticut 42, Providence 32, 3-Point goals - Providence 10-20 (Croshere 4-5, Thomas 3-8, M. Brown 2-3, D. Brown 1-1, Murdoch 0-1, Shamgod 0-2), Connecticut 4-9 (Allen 2-4, Sheffer 2-5). Fouled out - Croshere.

Rebounds - Providence 31 (Garcia 6), Connecticut 43 (King 9), Assists - Providence 16 (Shamgod 10), Connecticut 19 (Sheffer 8), Total fouls - Providence 23, Connecticut 77. A - 8,241.

TUESDAY'S TOP 25 RESULTS:

No. 1 Nass. beat Fordham 73-47. No. 4 Conn. beat Providence 99-77. No. 11 Vir. Tech beat Oquossaw 69-63. No. 12 N. Car. lost to Maryland 84-78.

Meeting scheduled to resolve World Cup dispute

CALCUTTA (AP) - Organizers of the World Cup cricket tournament have scheduled a meeting one day before the opening ceremony to resolve the dispute over Australia and West Indies playing in Sri Lanka. It was announced yesterday.

The meeting is expected to be attended by representatives from Australia, West Indies, Zimbabwe, Kenya and the three host countries - India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, said Jagmohan Dalmiya, convener of the organizing committee.

Australia and West Indies have refused to play in Sri Lanka, citing security risks to view of last week's bombing in Colombo.

Harva wins Magnes Race

HEATHER CHAIT

YESTERDAY'S rare winter weather brought out hundreds of runners to Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus to compete in the 45th Magnes Race.

Aloopside the 2,300 meter popular Magnes Race, the competitive Frankel Race was held for the sixth time.

The 5,000 meters Frankel Race was won by Ataly Harva from Maccabi Tel Aviv in a time of 16:28 minutes while Ety Kirna from ASA Jerusalem strode home first in the women's section for her fourth consecutive title, registering 20:17 mins.

The Magnes Race attracted a large number of entries from youth movements and school children with Shimon Halami from Tzfat Hadera winning the boys (until 14) category with a

time of 8:01 mins. Shira Weiss from ASA Jerusalem won the parallel girls section in 9:03 mins.

Among the contestants in the 3,000m. walk was Olympic race-walker, Professor Shaul Ladani, who has competed in this race since 1955.

Other winners over the 5,000m. distance were meo (over 40) Moti Saguy, women (over 35) Rahel Nager, boys (until 18) Omer Fattal and girls (until 18) Maya Carmi.

The event, organized by the Hebrew University's Cosell Center and Jerusalem Municipality's Sports Authority, formed part of Jerusalem's 3000th birthday festivities this year.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bruck sets another record

Success, to Yuav Bruck, seems to lead to more success. Bruck set another Israeli record yesterday at Imperia in the Italian Riviera swimming in the 50 meter freestyle event.

His time of 22.16 seconds knocked 14 hundredths off his previous Israeli record set in Paris last week and earned him the bronze medal behind Britain's Mark Foster, who came in with a time of 21.70 seconds and world champion Alexander Popov of Russia who finished second in 21.90.

In the World Cup series of short-course pool tournaments, Bruck has now collected six medals and achieved nine national records.

Elisha Levy new Zairim Holon coach

Elisha Levy took over the reins at Zairim Holon yesterday, stepping into the vacant slot left by Mordchai Spiegler. Spiegler left Holon on Monday following a string of poor results that has dropped the team to 15th place in the National League and in danger of relegation.

Levy, who was fired from the helm of Maccabi Herzliya earlier this season, took charge of the first training session yesterday afternoon in preparation for the weekend's home league clash with Hapoel Beersheba.

Rosenthal scores as Spurs win

Ronny Rosenthal scored the first goal as Tottenham Hotspur beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 2-0 in an FA Cup fourth round tie at Molineux last night. Rosenthal's goal came in the eighth minute, with the Londoners' second being scored two minutes later by Teddy Sheringham.

Huddersfield reaches 5th round of FA Cup

Second-half goals by Darren Bullock and Andy Booth gave Huddersfield a 2-0 win over Peterborough Tuesday night and sent the First Division club into the fifth round of the FA Cup for the first time since 1972.

Huddersfield advanced to a meeting with Premier League sides, Middlesbrough or Wimbledon.

Bullock struck in the 52nd minute, hammering a drive from 22 yards past goalkeeper Jon Sheffield. Booth converted a rebound in the 74th minute for his 13th goal of the season.

Two other FA Cup fourth-round games - Bolton vs. Leeds and Ipswich vs. Walsall - were among the 14 matches in England and Scotland that were postponed Tuesday because of heavy snow.

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Jerusalem - weekdays: 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 6 p.m. on Thursday.
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Bringing the Kadoories back into the fold

On a recent Hong Kong visit, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat successfully courted the famed family, Abraham Rabinovich reports

ing part of the world — important enough to warrant personal courting by Israel's finance minister.

According to Ezra Yehzekel-Shaked, author of a recently published book on the Jews of the Far East, the fallout between the Kadoories and Zionism dates to an alleged insult attributed to none other than Chaim Weizmann.

The two brothers heading the Kadoorie family in the 1920s, Elias and Eliezer, had been supportive of the Zionist movement since 1900 and had helped purchase land on Mount Scopus for the construction of the Hebrew University. When Elias died, the stock exchange in Shanghai, where the family then lived, was closed in mourning, as were other public institutions, Shaked writes in his book *Hoyehudim: Ha'opium ve Hakimono* ("Jews, Opium and Kimono"), published by Reuven Mass.

Eliezer traveled to Rome to discuss with Weizmann ways of memorializing his brother in Eretz Yisrael. They agreed on the establishment of an agricultural school for Jewish youths near Afula. When British mandatory officials insisted that the school also accept Arabs, a compromise was struck whereby a separate Kadoorie agricultural school would be established for Arabs near Yulkarn. (The Jewish Kadoorie school would become the center of Palmah training. One of its graduates would be Yitzhak Rabin.)

When Kadoorie and Weizmann met again in Jerusalem at the opening of Hebrew University in 1925, Kadoorie proposed several other projects. Among them was a "garden city" to be financed by Far Eastern Jews, most of whom, like the Kadoories, were of Iraqi extraction. The city would be built north of Kiryat Motzkin. Planned by a Vietnamese Jewish architect then living in Shanghai, it would have palatial public institutions.

The Zionist leadership, up to its neck in the day-to-day concerns of acquiring land, establishing agricultural settlements and dealing with Arab opposition, was not enthused by this grandiose vision. According to Shaked, the break



Lawrence Kadoorie (front row, fourth from left), Sir Eli Kadoorie (eighth from left) and Horace Kadoorie (ninth from left) on a visit to the Alliance School in Baghdad. Lawrence Kadoorie (top right) and Sir Eli Kadoorie (bottom right). (Jewish Babylonian Heritage Center)



came when Weizmann said that the money for the project would have to be provided up front before work got under way. Deeply insulted, according to this account, Kadoorie broke off contacts with the Zionist movement. "Thenceforth," Shaked wrote, "Eli Kadoorie focused on establishing educational and welfare institutions for Chinese and for helping Jewish communities elsewhere in the world." An Ashkenazi-Sephardi spin was suggested to Shaked by Ya'acov Alkoub, an American Jew who was close to the Kadoories in Shanghai.

"Eli told me about his conversations with Weizmann about Garden City in a bitter tone," Alkoub recalled. "He said, 'Look, I'm richer than the Rothschilds yet they do in Eretz Yisrael whatever they please. Only on me are there strictures.'"

IRAQI JEWS first came to China with the British East India Company after the first Opium War, about 150 years ago. Demonstrating a gift for languages and for business, they prospered. The Kadoories arrived in the 1880s and established themselves in Shanghai, then a small town. Profits derived from trading in tea, porcelain and the like were eventually multiplied by their purchase of large tracts of barren land where China's most dynamic city would grow.

With the arrival of Jewish refugees from Europe at the onset of World War II, the Kadoories and other prominent Iraqi families in Shanghai were instrumental in providing housing and sustenance for close to 30,000 of their Ashkenazi brethren. Eli Kadoorie died during the war. The family enterprises were reestablished in Hong Kong by his two sons, Horace and Lawrence, after their holdings in China had been nationalized by the mainland's Communist regime. The Kadoories were leading figures in Hong Kong's post-war emergence as an economic power and they built housing for some 300,000 Chinese refugees who fled to the colony after the communist takeover. As British subjects, Horace was awarded an OBE for his contribution to the crown colony's development and Lawrence became a lord.

The severance of Kadoorie-Israel relations was not total. After the establishment of the state, Horace traveled to Israel to discuss the possibility of transferring to Jerusalem his fabulous collection of Chinese art, but that plan never worked out. Lawrence visited after the Six Day War to attend a conference of Jewish millionaires organized by then-finance minister Pinhas Sapir to raise investments, but this visit too left no echo. According to Shaked, the brothers maintained close contacts with China over the years, despite the loss of their pre-war possessions there. When China began negotiations with Britain for the transfer of the colony to Chinese rule in 1997, Lawrence expressed support for China's position, says the author. Horace, who remained a bachelor, is today in his 80s. Lawrence died three years ago at age 94 and his interests in the family enterprises were taken over by his son Michael. These enterprises reportedly include power plants — among them a nuclear plant built in China — shipping lines, luxury hotels and extensive real-estate holdings. In his visit with Michael, Shohat presented him with photographs of letters sent by his grandfather from Hong Kong in 1913 to Chaim Weizmann. The letters were found in the Zionist Archives. The minister also presented him with an aerial photo of the Kadoorie School.

After breathtaking diplomatic breakthroughs in the past five years with China, India, the former Soviet empire and the Arab world, Israel has just patched up another long-standing rift — with the Kadoorie family of Hong Kong. It fell to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat during his tour of the Far East to effect reconciliation after 70 years between the Zionist enterprise and a Jewish family reputed to be one of the wealthiest on earth. Shohat was received by Michael Kadoorie, present head of the family, in his opulent home. Shohat extended a formal invitation to the business tycoon to visit the Jewish state. In the words of a press release issued by the Finance Ministry in Jerusalem, "to the delight of those present the invitation was accepted." With strong economic ties to China and other parts of the Far East, the Kadoories are a potentially powerful ally for Israel as it seeks to reach out to that fast-grow-

Mums have to leave their daughters-in-law alone



Dear Ruthie,
My son has three very young children (aged four, three and six months). The problem, though, is my daughter-in-law. As a mother, she is virtually nonexistent. Her career took an upswing just at the time when she decided to have children (in her mid-thirties). Rather than choose between the two, she had the children, while also spending more and more time away from home. The brunt of the burden now falls on my son and on the au pair. I feel it is not my place to interfere, but I know the situation is not good for the children.

Grievous Grandma
Netanya
Dear GG,
Even if interference were justified, it would do little good. Your son and daughter-in-law have created a family structure with their eyes open. Only their own desire to reassess priorities can make a difference. Since it is your daughter-in-law's career which has taken an upswing, awakening, if any, is likely to come first from your son.

However, do not imagine that your daughter-in-law experiences no guilt about spending so little time with her children. Motherhood lends itself to feelings of failure under the best of circumstances. What you can do is to be as supportive of the children as possible.

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM
(For children at such tender ages, "support" translates best into physical presence.) You can continue to hope that their mother will widen her career to include bet kids... or that the au pair will take equal pride in her own career.

Dear Ruthie,
My husband remarried quite soon after our divorce. We have a 10-year-old daughter. My ex-husband's wife recently had a baby. My daughter spends a lot more time with her father and his wife now that the baby gives her something to occupy herself with.

The problem is that I fear she is being used by her stepmother more as a babysitter than a sibling to the baby. For example, when my daughter is there, her stepmother takes naps at her convenience. I don't want my daughter to feel she has to "work for" her father's love. Should I speak to them about this? Or will they think I'm acting out of jealousy?

Exaggerating Ex-Wife?
Jerusalem
Dear Ex-Ex,
The fact that your daughter wishes to spend more time with her father and his wife may have to do with a new sense of purpose in her life. Whether her stepmother is taking advantage of this situation is impossible for you to know. She may be allowing your daughter to feel that she is truly a

part of the family. Your daughter probably experienced a degree of apprehension during her stepmother's pregnancy. She may have worried about losing her "place" in her father's life. Once the baby was born, and she was allowed to create this niche for herself, she probably felt relieved. Rather than confronting your ex-husband with your suspicions, give your daughter more time to grow into her new reality. If she is being used, she will sense it sooner or later.

Dear Ruthie,
In the two years since separating from my husband, I have not dated anyone. Uneasy about going places alone, I turn in very early every night. I have begun to lose the desire to venture out into the world, except for work and child-related activities. How can I break the cycle?

Gauche Callwanger
Somewhere in Israel
Dear GG,
The best way to break a cycle is gradually. Select a one-time evening excursion and invite a female friend. If you do not feel ready to brave it on your own. Once you are out, the demons are bound to loom less large. Then you can plan a second outing...

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail, editors@jpost.co.il (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

US women soldiers can hack the heavy work

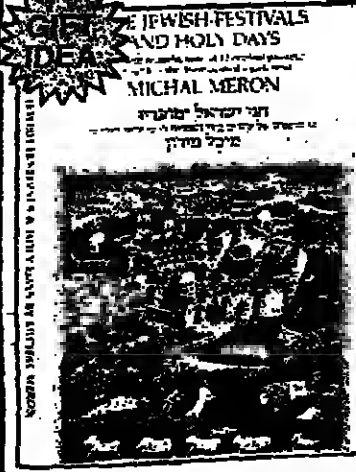
With enough strength training, women can load trucks, fix heavy equipment and march under the weight of a loaded backpack as well as many men, according to a study by US Army researchers. Seventy-eight percent of the women tested could qualify for Army jobs considered "very heavy," which involve the occasional lifting of 45-kilogram loads, said Everett Harman, the Army scientist who headed the study. The results prove that "women are capable of being trained to perform most 'very heavy' military tasks," Harman said. Before the training study began at the Army's labs in Natick, Massachusetts, only 24 percent of the women tested could lift 45 kg. The volunteers — all but one of them civilians — were lawyers, hantenders, mothers and students. Many had never exercised before, and several had recently had children and wanted to get back in shape; others were recreational joggers. Each earned \$500 for participating. "When people think of this study, they probably think we're bodybuilding, steroid-taking, weightlifting women," said Jean Haertl, 30, who said she lost 16 kg. over the six months of training. "We range from being very thin and lean to not so thin and lean. We represent the average shape of women."



US Army women soldiers carry their packs during a World War II troop transport. Today, women can qualify to carry much more. For 24 weeks beginning in May, 41 women spent 90 minutes a day, five days a week, performing strength tests designed to simulate specific military tasks. Four trainers, all nationally certified, oversaw their conditioning. The women lifted 18-kg. boxes to heights of 132 centimeters — the average height of an Army flatbed truck — jogged through a 3.2-km. wooded course wearing a 34-kg. backpack, and performed dozens of squats holding a 45-kg. barbell on their shoulders. For the tests most relevant to military tasks — backpacking and the repetitive lifting of heavy boxes — the women improved 33 percent overall. Harman measured the women's success against previous Army studies of men on active duty. In earlier tests, an average Army

man could lift a 58-kg. box to a height of 132 centimeters. Before the study, the women volunteers could lift 70 percent of that. After, they averaged 91 percent of what the men lifted. On average, Harman said, women have about 70 percent of the lower body strength of men, and 55-60 percent of men's upper body strength. Lori Gilstrap, a strength and conditioning coordinator with the US Olympic Committee in San Diego, said she wasn't surprised that the women improved, especially because they had never been professionally trained. But, she said, women can't be expected to match men's strength because they have much lower levels of testosterone. "For women to lift the exact amount that a male could lift, say in a bench press, is going to be very, very difficult," she said. Critics charged last year that the study, conducted by the Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, was a prelude to plans to allow women to engage in hand-to-hand combat. Because of that, the \$140,000 study was placed on hold for about five weeks until the controversy subsided. Women are now excluded from ground combat in the US Army and often are rejected for other jobs because they can't perform the lifting tasks, Harman said. (AP)

THE JEWISH FESTIVALS AND HOLY DAYS



Contains reproductions of original watercolors, depicting twelve of the most important days in the Jewish calendar. The naive style paintings by the well known Israeli artist Michael Meron capture the essence of these important days, from austere Yom Kippur to the ebullience of Independence Day. Michael Meron's eye for color and intricate detail combines with an inspirational approach to this unique spiritual heritage. Published by The Studio in Old Jaffa, full color, 32 pp.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1996

Report: Banks miscalculated kibbutz debts Tzur, Shahal demand official commission of inquiry into allegations

AGRICULTURE Minister Ya'acov Tzur and Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal are demanding an official commission of inquiry into alleged kibbutz debts to the banks, after the Procaccia preliminary report, published yesterday, said banks inflated the debts.

Supervisor of Bank's Ze'ev Abeles denied reports that the banks are at risk of collapsing, if mistakes are discovered in the bank's debt calculation.

The draft report said the commercial banks miscalculated charges to kibbutzim over many years and that correcting the mistakes will place doubt on the stability of the banking sector.

"An examination of the mistaken parameters included in the banks' accounts is likely to lead to surprising results," the report said. "These results are expected to differ from one kibbutz to another, but together the results are expected to cast doubt on the majority of the debt and indirectly threaten the stability of the banking system."

The report - which was written by Prof. Uriel Procaccia, a specialist in legal issues and attorney Ya'acov Weinrot - places a strong emphasis on the legal parameters used to calculate the debts.

"We believe, that at least some of these parameters are mistaken, and their correction is likely to lead to significant changes in the bottom line," the report said. "That is, in the size of kibbutz debts to the banks."

The examination was commissioned by the Kibbutz Headquarters, a private association set up to check kibbutz bank accounts. Procaccia is expected to publish a complete report at the end of the month.

Speaking on Israel Radio, Procaccia said the banking sector will not collapse as a result of the banks' alleged miscalculations, but the country's two largest banks will be faced with a problem.

Abeles said the kibbutz debts do not threaten the stability of the banks, which in their financial statements have already defined them as bad debts and accounted for them in the provisions for doubtful debts clause.

Total kibbutz debts to the banking sector are about NIS 15 billion.

"Headlines in the press of risks that the banks will collapse do not at all reflect the reality," said Abeles. "Even if there is some truth to the claims [in the report], the banks have financial reserves to solve the problem if it arises.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

These reserves are like an absorbent pillow for possible future losses, and will reduce the possible future damage on the banks' profitability."

Abeles emphasized that the Procaccia report is not complete and was commissioned by a body that is not objective. He advised the kibbutzim not to cancel the debt arrangement they have with the banks in order to check their accounts, since it is likely to lead to complete confusion.

The Kibbutz Movement Association sided with Abeles, saying the Kibbutz Headquarters is causing significant harm which may lead to the collapse of the kibbutz debt arrangement.

But not all the kibbutzim agree.

Following the publication of the report, the Kibbutz Headquarters reportedly received dozens of requests from kibbutzim interested in having their accounts checked.

Zafir Ronen, head of the Kibbutz Headquarters Association, said the implications of the report are that many kibbutzim do not owe money to the banks and in many cases the banks owe money to the kibbutzim.

Bank Leumi, which rejected

the findings of the report, said the Kibbutz Headquarters is trying to take advantage of the primaries to squeeze money out of the government.

"The only place where these accusations and claims can be checked is in the courts, and every citizen and kibbutz can do so," the bank said. "So far, despite the Kibbutz Headquarters' repeated accusations, not even one kibbutz has filed a claim of this kind against Bank Leumi, and this speaks for itself."

The Agriculture Ministry, which is demanding an official commission of enquiry, said Abeles, bank managers and the Treasury are doing everything in their power to prevent an examination of the episode.

"During the last decade, the kibbutz sector was regarded as a national failure, and the banking sector as the main casualty from the episode," Tzur said. "The debts not only had an economic price but also a social and personal price."

MK Silvan Shalom (Likud), who is a member on the Knesset Finance Committee banking committee, said it is necessary to check the banks' calculations to avoid an "economic earthquake." He urged Abeles to interfere in the matter to maintain

the reputation of Israeli banks with foreign clients.

MI Holdings, which is in charge of selling the government-owned banks, said it will be necessary to solve the issue of kibbutz debts before the banks are sold.

Evelyn Gordon adds:

MK Haggai Merom (Labor) said either the Treasury or the Bank of Israel must immediately set up a committee to investigate the report's findings.

"This information has been running around for a long time already, and the Procaccia report strengthens the suspicions [of wrongdoing]," he said. "The Treasury must set up a team to investigate the report's findings on the kibbutzim's debts - and, no less important, on the debts of ordinary citizens."

Merom said that while simply suing the banks would be an option, it is preferable for a Treasury or Bank of Israel committee to investigate the issue, because "there is also an important public aspect here."

If the banks have been overcharging, he explained, it is not enough that they repay the money.

The government must also find ways to ensure that this does not happen again.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Hydro-Aluminum buys 10% of Alubin from Dovrat Shrem: Hydro-Aluminum of the Norsk-Hydro metals group has purchased 10 percent of Alubin Industries from Dovrat Shrem Industries, along with options to purchase an additional 20% share. Norsk-Hydro group, Norway's largest industrial concern, has long been a supplier of raw material to Alubin. *Rachel Neiman*

Aloni signs general license for Pelephone operations: Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday signed the general license that establishes the legal framework for the operations of the Pelephone company, in which Motorola and Bezeq are partners for the supply of cellular phones. Pelephone won the tender as the first supplier of cellular phone service in 1983, but for the last 13 years has functioned without its own general license, using instead Bezeq's general license.

When Pelephone's competitor, Cellcom, won its tender to compete over a year ago, the ministry committed itself to preparing a general license for Pelephone. After long negotiations, these details have been worked out. *Judy Siegel*

Customs Authority, Russia cooperate to catch smugglers: The Customs Authority signed an agreement yesterday with its Russian counterpart to provide each other with information and assistance in helping to catch Russian smugglers operating here and in Russia, a Customs Authority spokesman said. In the agreement, both sides promised to provide information to help catch, bring to trial and convict people, namely members of the Russian mafia, who are suspected of smuggling drugs and other goods into Israel. *Jennifer Friedlin*

Lidan Business Enterprise subsidiary ICTS International has won a \$40 million contract to provide a large international airline with security inspection services across Europe for the next three years. Lidan said it was not yet able to estimate the impact of the deal on ICTS. *Rachel Neiman*

Plastic Magen has won a \$150,000 contract to provide two solar collector systems to heat the official swimming pools at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. *Rachel Neiman*

Oppenheimer and Co. has reiterated its buy recommendation of Madge Networks shares. "We look forward to the positive opportunity for Madge to leverage an expanded sales force and channel with its quickly growing product portfolio," Madge acquired Lamet last November. *Rachel Neiman*

Volcan (Volta) Batteries has announced net profits of NIS 2.199 million for last year, compared with net losses of NIS 103,000 in 1994. Revenues increased to NIS 42.45m. from NIS 37.2m. *Rachel Neiman*

VocalTec begins trading on Nasdaq

RACHEL NEIMAN

DOVRAT Shrem investment managed by Dovrat Shrem and taking advantage of Cowan and Co.'s expertise in raising capital for high-tech investments.

The VocalTec share closed at \$17.4, after reaching a high during the day of 20.4.

The company, which only one year ago was barely more than a start-up with a good idea - using the Internet to conduct long-distance audio conversations at local phone rates - opened at \$19 per share.

Dovrat Shrem, together with investment house Cowan and Co., will establish a \$50 million venture capital fund to invest primarily in Israeli technology-based companies.

The fund will be a joint effort, managed by Dovrat Shrem and taking advantage of Cowan and Co.'s expertise in raising capital for high-tech investments.

Dovrat Shrem executive VP Ori Eisenberg confirmed yesterday that cooperation between the two firms had been decided on, adding that "details are not finalized."

This week senior representatives of Cowan and Co. were taken by Dovrat Shrem on a brief introductory tour of several Israeli industries, said Eisenberg, "to show how we manage technology and that there is technology in Israel."

Bill would distribute free options to public

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE government's privatization plan would speed up under the proposed legislative options law that Finance Minister Avraham Shohat plans to submit to the ministerial committee on legislation this week, before bringing it to the Knesset.

The proposal involves distributing to the public free options that could be used to purchase, at a discount, a package of shares in firms that are being privatized.

Several months ago, a panel headed by Finance Ministry Director-General David Brodet proposed to distribute options to citizens to help privatize government-owned companies.

The Treasury said implementation of the option program should speed up the state's sale of holdings in large commercial banks and other firms. Shohat proposes to start the process with the sale of 40% of Bank Leumi, 25% of United Mizrahi Bank, 25% of Israel Discount Bank, and 25% of Israel Chemicals.

The Treasury said the program is also expected to contribute to

the sophistication of the local capital market and increase the supply of shares traded on the capital market.

Under the program, everyone listed in the voters' registry - about 3.8 million people - will be entitled to receive the options. The Bank of Israel will send eligible citizens notices informing them of their rights to receive the options. Individuals that notify their bank of their intention to purchase the options will have them deposited with their banks.

The ministry expects to distribute the options to the public in the second half of this year. Three months after distribution, the stock market will start trading in the options.

At the start of 1997, it will be possible to convert the options into shares over a period of nine to 21 months, depending on the company.

If the option holder does not want to buy shares, he can sell the voucher on the stock market. The sale of options and shares will be exempt from tax.



A Polish miner checks his overalls in a locker room at the Piast Colliery yesterday. Poland's coal miners from the Silesian region went on strike on Monday, demanding higher pay and government guarantees there will be no change in their pension system. (Reuters)

IEC readies for raising capital

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Israel Electric Corporation announced yesterday it has established a special committee to prepare for the future raising of capital.

IEC estimates that to fund rapid growth, brought about by a dramatic leap in consumer demand, it will need to invest NIS 32.5 billion over the next seven years, or NIS 4.5b. per year.

The committee will be headed by board member Yitzhak Zinger, who also serves as chairman of IEC's finance committee. "We are studying financial reports from the western world's leading electric power providers, and taking into account the changes which will take place within the company when the drafting of this historic contract is completed and the new electricity bill is in place," said Zinger.

Zinger said his committee will focus on reviewing IEC's financial statements to ready itself for fundraising both in Israel and abroad.

IAI: US cancellation of Hunter won't significantly affect us

STEVE RODAN

ISRAEL Aircraft Industries does not expect to be significantly affected by the Pentagon's cancellation of a \$4.3 billion program that included IAI's Hunter two-engine drone, company sources said yesterday.

One senior source said a "number of clients are interested in the Hunter and there are advanced negotiations." The source declined to elaborate.

Sources said the cancellation would not immediately affect manpower at IAI's unmanned reconnaissance vehicle division.

The Hunter program was plagued by disputes between California-based TRW and IAI over the management of the program. It is not clear whether the end of the Hunter will also end the coop-

eration between the two firms.

IAI executives refused to issue a formal response to the cancellation, saying it was a US decision.

Last week, the Pentagon axed a program developed by TRW Avionics Systems Division and decided instead to speed investment in a competing design for a UAV, called the Predator, being

developed by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems.

TRW has been IAI's American partner in the Hunter, and at one point the Pentagon planned to buy about 400 of them.

US defense officials have complained of the performance of the Hunter, which crashed three times during test flights.

The Pentagon has already spent \$667m. for seven Hunters.

India gov't divided over currency policy

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Indian officials appeared to be split on currency policy yesterday, with the Finance Ministry saying it was not worried about the rupee's sharp plunge against the dollar.

"There is no cause for alarm," Finance Secretary Montek Singh Ahluwalia said.

The rupee hit a record low of 38.35 per dollar yesterday, more than four percent below its opening level on Monday and 10% lower than at the start of 1996.

Industry analysts said it could tumble as low as 40 to the dollar before coming general elections. The hands-off stance of Ahluwalia, the highest-ranking civil servant in the Finance Ministry, contrasted with strong comments on Tuesday by Commerce Secretary Tejendra Khanna, who chided the central bank for not defending the rupee.

Japan's current account surplus declines in '95

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan's huge surplus in its current account - its broadest measure of trade in goods and services - fell for the second straight year in 1995, and the government said yesterday that more falls were in sight.

Japan's current account surplus in 1995 fell to \$110.44 billion from a surplus of \$129.14b. the previous year, a drop of 14.5 percent, according to Finance Ministry data released yesterday.

The nation's trade surplus, which makes up part of the current account calculation, fell to \$134.82b. in 1995 from a \$145.94b. surplus in 1994.

"The surplus in the current account will continue on a shrinking trend," the Treasury said.

Economists agreed, saying that Japan's current account surplus was likely to drop again this calendar year.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (8.2.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.375	4.250	4.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	1.750	1.750	2.000
German mark (DM 200,000)	0.250	0.275	0.250
Yen (¥1 million yen)			

(Please vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (7.2.96)

CURRENCY BASKET	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rate
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.4669	3.5523	3.04	3.20	3.2588
German mark	3.1010	3.1811	2.66	2.77	2.7177
French franc	2.1929	2.2588	1.92	2.02	2.0483
Pound sterling	4.7883	4.9453	4.28	4.52	4.5483
Japanese yen (100)	2.9270	0.0221	0.80	0.84	0.8483
Dutch guilder	2.5739	2.6743	2.27	2.32	2.3483
Swedish krona	1.2780	1.3083	1.14	1.14	1.1413
Swiss franc	2.5739	2.6155	2.22	2.28	2.2883
Norwegian krone	0.4817	0.4924	0.43	0.46	0.4683
Denmark krone	0.6228	0.6221	0.57	0.58	0.5883
Finnish mark	2.2823	2.2988	2.22	2.24	2.2483
Canadian dollar	2.5379	2.5737	2.29	2.31	2.3183
Australian dollar	0.8507	0.8545	0.77	0.77	0.7783
S. African rand	1.0256	1.0398	0.93	0.93	0.9383
Belgian franc (10)	2.5328	2.5588	1.88	1.94	1.9483
Austrian schilling (10)	1.9709	2.0027	1.88	1.94	1.9483
Italian lira (1000)					
Spanish peseta					
Egyptian pound					
ECU	3.8800	3.9223	3.63	3.77	3.7783
West part	4.9146	4.9308	4.63	4.77	4.7783
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4918	2.5320	2.44	2.57	2.5783

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Redemption Price: 107.26

למנוח פניא למנוח

TARGET Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 6.2.96

Purchase Price: 147.97

Redemption Price: 145.58

למנוח פניא למנוח

Key Representative Rates

Table with 2 columns: Rate, Change. Includes US dollar (NIS 3.1290 -0.06%), Sterling (NIS 4.8047 -0.11%), Mark (NIS 2.1177 -0.58%).

New York market indexes

Table with 2 columns: Index Name, Change. Includes DJ Industrials (+0.12%), DJ Transp (+0.08%), DJ Util (+0.05%), NYSE Composite (+0.08%), etc.

Other stock market indexes

Table with 2 columns: Index Name, Change. Includes FTSE 100 (+0.02%), Nikkei 225 (+0.01%), Hang Seng 1989 (+0.01%), etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Change. Lists various Israeli companies like Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, etc.

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INFLATION MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)

Table with 2 columns: Currency, Change. Lists rates for Euro, Yen, etc.

Labor rates

Table with 2 columns: Labor Type, Rate. Lists various labor categories and their rates.

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Foreign financial data courtesy of

CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds 34 Ben Yehuda St. Jerusalem Tel: 02-244663, 02-5758826 Fax: 02-244376

US commodities

Table with 2 columns: Commodity, Change. Lists prices for various commodities like wheat, oil, etc.

London commodities

Table with 2 columns: Commodity, Change. Lists prices for London commodities like gold, silver, etc.

Spot market metals (US)

Table with 2 columns: Metal, Change. Lists prices for various metals like copper, aluminum, etc.

New York metal futures

Table with 2 columns: Metal, Change. Lists prices for New York metal futures.

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TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table of stock prices and changes for Multi-sided trading. Includes Commercial, Mortgage Banks & Finance, Financial Institutions, Insurance, Property, Building & Agriculture, Trade & Services.

Two-sided trading

Table of stock prices and changes for Two-sided trading. Includes AFTERNOON and MORNING sections with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume.

PARALLEL LIST

Table of parallel listed stocks with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume. Includes sections for NEW YORK, LONDON, TOKYO, HONG KONG, PARIS, and FRANKFURT.

Indexes close slightly higher

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Two-Sided Index

INDEXES closed little changed yesterday after two days of losses, as declines in Koor Industries offset gains in Clal.

Maof index

ding for a stake in the bank were considering dropping out, said Hacker.

FTSE drops 21 points

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - UK equities finished lower, unsettled by a scarcity of any upbeat corporate or economic news, as well as a growing concern that the FTSE could be on the verge of a moderate correction...

Dow pushes further into record territory

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - After trading water most of the day, blue-chip stocks pushed further into record territory yesterday in a late buying spree.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Table with 5 columns: MARK, STERLING, YEN, SFY, FFY. Lists exchange rates for various currencies.

Bulls stay derailed

PHOENIX (AP) - The Chicago Bulls are on a losing streak. And Charles Barkley and the Phoenix Suns are looking like an NBA power again.

Barkley scored 35 points and grabbed 16 rebounds as the Bulls handed the Bulls just their fifth loss of the season with a 106-96 victory Tuesday. It was the Bulls' second second defeat in three nights.

Elliot Perry broke a 96-96 tie with two free throws and a jumper. Barkley hoisted Perry over his shoulder and carried him to the bench as Chicago called timeout.

Then Barkley stole the inbounds pass for his breakaway dunk, and the celebrating began.

Michael Jordan scored 12 of his 28 points in the final six minutes of the fourth quarter, helping the Bulls come from as many as nine points behind to tie it at 93 and 96.

Magie 112, Kings 102.

The Orlando Magic moved a game closer to the NBA record for home wins at the start of a season.

Antfernee Hardaway scored 24 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 22 as the Atlantic Division leaders improved to 25-0 at Orlando Arena and extended their NBA-high, home winning streak to 32 regular-season games dating back to last spring.

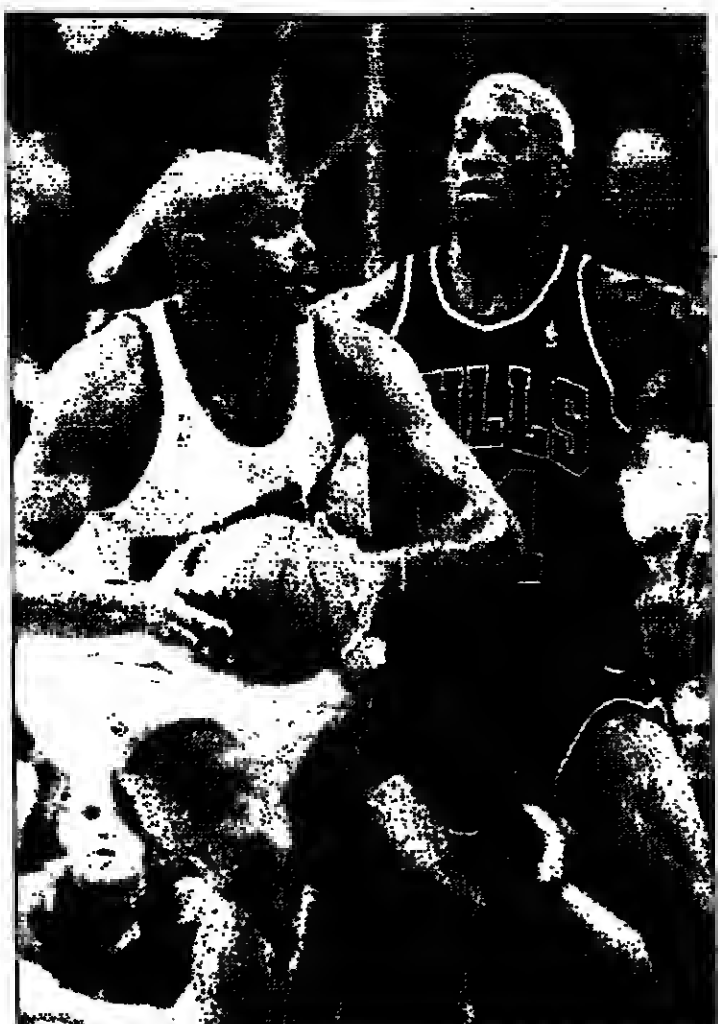
The record for home victories at the start of a season is 27, set by Washington in 1946-47.

Lakers 99, Nuggets 78.

Magie Johnson scored 16 points, dished out 12 assists and narrowly missed a triple-double with nine rebounds.

Johnson, in his fourth game since ending his retirement last week, played 33 minutes and showed flashes of his old self, particularly in the final quarter.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS:
Cleveland 91, Boston 73
San Antonio 109, Charlotte 102
Orlando 112, Sacramento 102
Phoenix 106, Chicago 96
Milwaukee 114, Dallas 111
L.A. Lakers 99, Denver 78
Seattle 99, Houston 94



BULL FIGHTER - Phoenix's Charles Barkley goes up against Chicago's Dennis Rodman.

EASTERN CONFERENCE			WESTERN CONFERENCE		
Atlantic Division			Midwest Division		
Orlando	34	13 .723	San Antonio	30	14 .682
New York	29	16 .644	Utah	31	15 .674
Washington	22	22 .500	Houston	30	18 .625
Miami	21	26 .447	Denver	18	27 .413
New Jersey	18	27 .400	Dallas	15	30 .333
Boston	17	29 .370	Minnesota	13	31 .292
Philadelphia	9	36 .162	Vancouver	10	38 .217
Central Division			Pacific Division		
Chicago	41	5 .891	Seattle	34	12 .739
Indiana	31	15 .674	L.A. Lakers	27	19 .587
Cleveland	28	20 .586	Sacramento	24	19 .558
Atlanta	25	20 .556	Portland	23	24 .488
Detroit	22	22 .500	Phoenix	21	24 .467
Charlotte	21	27 .438	Golden State	21	28 .431
Milwaukee	17	27 .386	L.A. Clippers	18	30 .348
Toronto	13	33 .283			

Sheffer scores 22 as UConn extends win-streak to 21

STORRS, Conn. (AP) - A balanced scoring attack and Austin Croshere's foul troubles helped Connecticut remain unbeaten in the Big East.

Doron Sheffer led UConn with 22 points and Ray Allen added 21 as the No. 4 Huskies beat Providence 99-76 Tuesday night, extending the Huskies' win streak to 21 games.

Kirk King added 20 points on 9-for-10 shooting for UConn (22-1, 12-0 Big East), which took advantage of the foul trouble of Croshere, Providence's leading scorer.

The Huskies also got good efforts by Eric Hayward and Rudy Johnson. Hayward muscled his way through the lanes for shots and rebounds and finished with 10 points, three shy of his career high. Johnson had two key steals.

"I think what we did do is play with good defensive pressure," said UConn coach Jim Calhoun. "Secondly, we got a very good offensive performance, more bal-

anced without just relying on Ray's greatness at times."

Croshere, limited to four minutes and held scoreless before halftime, did his best to keep the Huskies (12-8, 5-7) in the game, even after getting his fourth foul six minutes into the second half.

Croshere finished with 16 points, including four 3-pointers, before fouling out with 4:25 remaining and the Friars trailing 76-67.

"Austin Croshere getting in foul trouble certainly hurt us," said Providence coach Pete Gillen. "It didn't cost us the game obviously, but I think it would have been a more competitive game."

CONNECTICUT 99
PROVIDENCE 77
PROVIDENCE (12-8)
D. Brown 7-13 3-5 18, Croshere 6-13 0-0 16, Garcia 2-6 1-4 5, Shamgoob 4-13 2-4 10, M. Brown 4-10 0-0 10, Thomas 3-12 1-2 10, Murdoch 1-2 0-2 2, Szybski 3-4 0-0 6, Acker 0-0 0-0 0, Cole 0-0 0-0 0.

TUESDAY'S TOP 25 RESULTS:
No. 1 Nass. Inst. Fordham 73-47.
No. 4 Conn. beat Providence 99-77.
No. 11 Vir. Tech. beat Oquesne 69-63.
No. 12 N. Car. lost to Maryland 84-78.

Maccabi in desperate need of another miracle

BRIAN FREEMAN

WHEN Doron Jamchee sank a last-second, 20-meter shot to give Maccabi Tel Aviv a dramatic 78-75 win over Cibona Zagreb last December at Yad Eliahu, it seemed destiny was ready to push the Israelis into the quarter-finals of the European Club Championships.

But instead of inspiring Maccabi to great heights, that victory - which boosted Tel Aviv's record to 4-2 and sole possession of second place in Group B - has been the team's last hurrah.

Since then, Maccabi has lost five of six European games, with its only victory coming over last-place Benfica Lisbon.

Fortune, however, has kept Tel Aviv's hopes alive for a quarter-final berth (see box), despite the lackluster play that has seen Maccabi lose two straight European home games.

So a victory tonight in Zagreb over Cibona, 6-6, would be much more than a morale booster. It could keep Maccabi in the race heading into the final pool's last contest next week at home against Panathinaikos.

Cibona, however, is also in the midst of the race and is not eager

to repeat its only loss this season on its home court - 93-82 last month to Panathinaikos.

Zagreb is centered around the same young core that made the quarter-finals last season before losing to eventual European champions Real Madrid.

It is led by 24-year-old forward Veljko Msrice, who missed the first two games of the championships recovering from knee surgery. He has since averaged a team-best 16.4 points a contest, including 41.7 percent (13-36) from three-point range.

He is one of three Cibona regulars with a three-point accuracy rate above 40%. The team loves to launch the ball from behind the arc, putting up 24 three-pointers a game, compared to only 11 for its opponents. And the overall team success rate is an impressive 39.6% (112-283).

Leading the bomb squad in percentage is 28-year-old guard Vladan Alanovic, who scores most of his 9.8 points a contest on three-pointers (20-45, 44.4%).

His backcourt mate, 21-year-old Damir Mulaomerovic, averages

12.0 points a game, helped by a team-leading 62 attempts from behind the arc and a 41.9% success rate (22-62).

Small forward Davor Marcelic, 26, also loves to heave the long-range shot, but he is only connecting on 35.4% (17-48) of the shots. However, he is 6-8 (75%) in his last two games.

One of Cibona's main problems is that when the shots miss, they have trouble grabbing the rebounds. In fact, Cibona has out-rebounded only one opponent in the past 10 games and is suffering from a 301-266 disadvantage on the boards for the season.

Despite the chance that remains for Maccabi to advance in Europe, the team talks about concentrating on the State Cup and league.

However, even that is giving the team problems, as Maccabi narrowly avoided an upset against last-place Hapoel Gvat in league play on Sunday.

Yarom Harush has been hired as assistant coach to help Zvi Sherf turn the team around before it repeats the disastrous 1992-93 season, when Maccabi finished last in its European final pool and lost both the league and State Cup.

Maccabi holds a 7-4 all-time record against Cibona, including 1-2 at Zagreb. Maccabi is 7-8 overall in the former Yugoslavia.

Tip off is scheduled for 9 pm and will be shown live on Channel 1.

European Club Championships				
Group A				
W	L	Pts		
Olympiacos	8	4	22	
CSKA Moscow	8	3	21	
Benetton Treviso	8	4	20	
Ulkar Istanbul	8	6	18	
Arises	5	7	17	
Melgou	5	7	17	
Iradis Salonika	4	8	17	
Bayer Leverkusen	4	8	18	

Group B				
W	L	Pts		
Barcelona	8	4	22	
Pau-Orthez	7	6	20	
Panathinaikos	7	5	18	
Real Madrid	7	8	18	
Cibona Zagreb	7	8	18	
Buckler Bologna	8	8	18	
Maccabi Tel Aviv	5	7	17	
Benfica Lisbon	2	10	14	

Israel-Norway Davis Cup draw today

ORI LEWIS

THE draw for the Davis Cup Euro/African Zone Group 1 tie between Israel and Norway takes place at Ramat Hasharon today.

While the draw will have little effect on the outcome of the encounter - with only the order of singles matches tomorrow and Sunday being determined - the weather may indeed have a considerable bearing on the tie.

Ramat Hasharon is the initial venue for the three-day event, although if rain should intervene, play may be moved to an indoor court in Ra'anana.

The facility has already been prepared, although the decision to move will be made by the ITF referee on site, Fabrice Srouquere of France.

Today's draw at noon will determine the order of play. With the latest Davis Cup format introduced three years ago, each No. 1 player is pitted against his opposite No. 2 tomorrow, with the No. 1 players and the No. 2 players meeting in the reverse singles on Sunday. The draw will only determine which match plays first on each day.

Tomorrow, therefore, Israel's No. 1 Eyal Ran will meet his No. 2 opponent Helge Koll, while Norway's top player, Christian Ruud will play Noam Behr. Israel will be looking to avenge its 4-1 defeat at the hands of the Norwegians in the same event last year.

If Israel wins the tie it will have to home meeting against Spain in April, while a loss would pit it against either Croatia or Ukraine away for the right to stay in Group 1.

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Soccer clubs back expansion

GENEVA (AP) - Europe's most powerful soccer clubs yesterday backed UEFA's plans for major expansion of its club competitions while making no moves towards setting up their own super league.

In an unprecedented face-to-face meeting with the owners of 33 clubs, including AC Milan, Ajax of Amsterdam, Bayern Munich, Real Madrid, Barcelona and Manchester United, UEFA president Lennart Johansson suggested expanding the Champions League from 24 to 32 teams.

He also spoke of the most successful nations, such as Italy, getting two places in the Champions League instead of one. Losing teams in the preliminary round also could get a second chance of European glory by gaining places into that season's UEFA Cup.

The suggestions appeared to get widespread approval. Johansson said UEFA planned to brief clubs on some ideas it had for the future.

Magic formula

DESPITE a writing off of Maccabi's chances to advance to the quarter-finals by most of the press as "minute" or "theoretical," the actual situation is not as dire.

This is what needs to happen for Maccabi to advance:
● It must win its remaining two games (next week is a home contest against Panathinaikos).

● Buckler Bologna must lose its last two games, which is not such a long-shot since it plays at Panathinaikos today and hosts Real Madrid next week.

● Pau-Orthez, which beat Barcelona 82-70 last night at home, must lose next week against Cibona.

Assuming Maccabi beats Cibona Zagreb tonight, Maccabi would hold the tie-breaker advantage over the Croatians since it would have defeated them twice.

If Maccabi ends the final pool with the same record as any of the other contenders, the Israelis would lose out.

However, if Maccabi is tied with both Cibona and Pau-Orthez, Maccabi would advance since it would have a better record in the games played among the tied teams (3-1) than either Orthez (2-2) or Cibona (1-3).

To do other three-way or four-way tie would Maccabi come out of the club that advances. B.F.

Meeting scheduled to resolve World Cup dispute

CALCUTTA (AP) - Organizers of the World Cup cricket tournament have scheduled a meeting one day before the opening ceremony to resolve the dispute over Australia and West Indies playing in Sri Lanka. It was announced yesterday.

The meeting is expected to be attended by representatives from Australia, West Indies, Zimbabwe, Kenya and the three host countries - India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, said Jagmohan Dalmiya, convener of the organizing committee.

Australia and West Indies have refused to play in Sri Lanka, citing security risks to view of last week's bombing in Colombo.

Harva wins Magnes Race

HEATHER CHAIT

YESTERDAY'S rare, mild, winter weather brought out hundreds of runners to Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus to compete in the 45th Magnes Race.

Aloopside of the 2,300 meter popular Magnes Race, the competitive Frankel Race was held for the sixth time.

The 5,000 meters Frankel Race was won by Ataly Harva from Maccabi Tel Aviv in a time of 16:28 minutes while Ety Kirna from ASA Jerusalem strode home first in the women's section for her fourth consecutive title, registering 20:17 mins.

The Magnes Race attracted a large number of entries from youth movements and school-children with Shimoo Halami from Tzfat Hadera winning the boys (until 14) category with a

time of 8:01 mins. Shira Weiss, from ASA Jerusalem won the parallel girls section in 9:03 mins.

Among the contestants in the 3,000m. walk was Olympic race-walker, Professor Shaul Ladani, who has competed in this race since 1955.

Other winners over the 5,000m. distance were meo (over 40) Moti Saguy, women (over 35) Rahell Nager; boys (until 18) Omer Fattal and girls (until 18) Maya Carmi.

The event, organized by the Hebrew University's Cosell Center and Jerusalem Municipality's Sports Authority, formed part of Jerusalem's 3000th birthday festivities this year.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bruck sets another record
Success, to Yuav Bruck, seems to lead to more success. Bruck set another Israeli record yesterday at Imperia in the Italian Riviera swimming in the 50 meter freestyle event.

His time of 22.16 seconds knocked 14 hundredths off his previous Israeli record set in Paris last week and earned him the bronze medal behind Britain's Mark Foster, who came in with a time of 21.70 seconds and world champion Alexander Popov of Russia who finished second in 21.90.

In the World Cup series of short-course pool tournaments, Bruck has now collected six medals and achieved nine national records. Heather Chait

Elisha Levy new Zafirim Holon coach
Elisha Levy took over the reins at Zafirim Holon yesterday, stepping into the vacant slot left by Mordchai Spiegler.

Spiegler left Holon on Monday following a string of poor results that has dropped the team to 15th place in the National League and in danger of relegation.

Levy, who was fired from the helm of Maccabi Herzliya earlier this season, took charge of the first training session yesterday afternoon in preparation for the weekend's home league clash with Hapoel Beersheba. Ori Lewis

Rosenthal scores as Spurs win
Ronny Rosenthal scored the first goal as Tottenham Hotspur beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 2-0 in an FA Cup fourth round tie at Molineux last night. Rosenthal's goal came in the eighth minute, with the Londoners' second being scored two minutes later by Teddy Sheringham. Mark Rivlin

Huddersfield reaches 5th round of FA Cup
Second-half goals by Darren Bullock and Andy Booth gave Huddersfield a 2-0 win over Peterborough Tuesday night and sent the First Division club into the fifth round of the FA Cup for the first time since 1972.

Huddersfield advanced to a meeting with Premier League sides, Middlesbrough or Wimbledon.

Bullock struck in the 52nd minute, hammering a drive from 22 yards past goalkeeper Jon Sheffield. Booth converted a rebound in the 74th minute for his 13th goal of the season.

Two other FA Cup fourth-round games - Bolton vs. Leeds and Ipswich vs. Walsall - were among the 14 matches in England and Scotland that were postponed Tuesday because of heavy snow. AP

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